

DESCRIPTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC (IN ENGLISH)

The main aim of this project is to verify whether the postulate of the apolitical character of legal science is feasible, especially in the light of critique grounded in poststructural and neopragmatic philosophy. The idea of production of apolitical knowledge is, without any doubt, one of the most important ideas of modernity. Legal science, as a specific type of knowledge about law has widely accepted the notion of its apolitical character, as well as created particular determinants regarding the concepts of "the political" and "apolitical character". Legal science, in order to prove and justify the thesis about its apolitical character, has sought support from many other fields of science, in particular linguistics and general philosophy. The last decades have witnessed significant changes in the philosophical environment in which legal science operated (particularly as a result of the success of post-structural and neo-pragmatic theories), leading to a sharp critique both of the apolitical character of scholarly cognition as such, and to attempts at putting such apolitical cognition into practice. All the arguments formulated on the ground of general philosophy and linguistics undermined legitimacy of legal science and turned out to be difficult to refute. Therefore it is important for contemporary legal science to realise the idea of its own apolitical character and meaningfully rebut arguments voiced by its critics. Previous attempts at such a rebuttal (for instance programmes of "naturalisation" and "deeper scientification" of legal science, institutional approaches or discourse theories) will be examined carefully. The project will also endeavour at creating new theoretical proposals.