

Over the past several years, in social science we may observe increasing interest in the problems of the injured person as the person who has suffered damage due to the committed crime. This phenomenon is the result of the undertaken intentions of unificational character in the legal area of European Union member states and covered by the Council of Europe system, the growth in importance of civil rights and freedoms movement, as well as the legal awareness of the participants of the proceedings. Following the development of the position of Polish law science, but also criminology, victimology and sociology as well as the results of researches in these branches of science we can formulate a thesis that soon this trend will intensify. Unfortunately, there are no known effects of these civilizational changes in the area of criminal proceedings.

Beginning with the Code of Criminal Procedure (CCP) of 1969, an overview of the following legal status amendments leads to the conclusion that the legislature gradually expands the powers of the injured person in the criminal process. Most significant in this case is the increase of the powers of the injured person related with the entry into force of the January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003 CCP amendment and the September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013 CCP amendment. Slight setback of this trend resulted from the Act of March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (which entered into force on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016), where unfortunately (in this amendment) not all the reasons were indicated, which would justify the limitation of the role of the injured party. Moreover, several scientific articles in this matter only contributory discuss indicated issues and a lack of comprehensive scientific description impede to present the issues in a fully way. It should be emphasized that in a criminal trial the injured person is a party only at the stage of preparatory proceedings, while in judicial proceedings is not a party unless it obtains the status of a auxiliary accuser or a private accuser. It should be also emphasized that increasing the procedural rights of the parties strengthens their position in the process, but also, unfortunately, reduces the efficiency of the proceedings, because the parties obtain instruments that could be used for process obstruction. It is the factor that will largely be examined in this project in order to answer the question - is the scope of procedural guarantees for the injured party indeed necessary, so that he can pursue his interest in the favorable result of the process.

Increasing the role of the victim can also be seen not only in the CCP provisions, but also in the rules regulating proceedings against minors, proceedings against collective entities, in disciplinary matters or against the misdemeanors offenders. Preliminary query research leads to the conclusion that the position of the victim in these proceedings is different not only on the basis of these proceedings, but also in the legal systems of the respective European countries. The intention of the participants of this grant is also comparing the powers and duties of the injured person in the repressive proceedings of the selected European countries, and at the beginning to determine the position of the injured person in the Polish law and what is more, whether his status is compatible with the standard which we are obliged to accept due to the implemented EU instruments. Undertaken filing surveys, questionnaire interviews, statistical analysis of the image of criminal procedure in Poland would allow formulate the conclusions about conformity of the Polish legislation with European standards and the effectiveness of the protection of legitimate interests of the injured person in law-positive regulation of the criminal procedure and other proceedings of repressive character.