

At every step on our daily basis we encounter a norms of conduct. Those norms are of particular importance from the lawyers perspective. Taking into consideration the general theory of norms and directives, this study is aimed at analysis the relations between the so-called “pair of norms” (e.g. the normative structures that consists of two elements), with particular reference to a “pair of legal norms”.

In the philosophy of law, the existence of a legal norm is traditionally associated with its validity and applicability. In order to examine which norms are legally binding, lawyers need a method which consists in separating between the valid legal norms and other important social norms of behaviour. The valid legal norms must meet certain criteria that relate to internal relation between those norms. Those criteria can be considered as criteria of the identification of legal system. Therefore, in order to determine whether a legal norm is valid, one should consider whether norm in question is valid in a legal system. The existence of a norm considered in connection with the concept of a legal system is an attempt to identify those norm which are legally binding. The issue of a norms, and in particular of a legal norms, is one of the central and fundamental ontological and epistemic category of philosophy and theory of law. Due to its role (not only in philosophy and theory of law, but also in other fields of science), desirable situation would be that, in which the term “legal norm” would had a clearly defined meaning. However, one can find in literature that there are various terms used for naming entities called "legal norms". Especially in this literature one can find such divisions of legal norms as: general and abstract norms; individual and specific norms; permits and permissions; procedural norms and norms of conduct; orders and decisions; technical directives and interpretative directives; norms giving a certain competency to do something and norms giving a certain authorisation do something; descriptions of situations of a normative characteristics.

Proposing a concrete solutions to the problem of relations between norms, in particular legal norms, is of particular importance for the theoretical study of a relations between normative structures. Norms are one of the central categories of jurisprudence around which a large amount of theoretical research is concentrated. This study will be focused on developing and explaining the theoretical model of a relations between normative structures.

The results of the research will be used as a basis for solving the problems related to the application of legal norms, their interpretation, and their validity and effectiveness, including social effectiveness. The systematization of views on the relations between the elements of normative structures will not only allow a better understanding of the problem described, but will also facilitate the dogmatic and practical legal discourse related to the subject matter.