

The significance of the problems of the legal protection of animals has been growing for the recent decades. It attracts attention of the public opinion, legislatures as well as legal sciences. Changes in the laws governing animal protection and questions of its proper operation spark intense public controversies and debates among legal expert and general public. An example of such situation may be the case before the Constitutional Tribunal of 2014 concerning the constitutional admissibility of the ban of ritual slaughter of animals. At the same time, most legal scientific research on animal protection law are fragmentary and focus on detailed issues of criminal. Civil or administrative aspects of animal protection legislation It is not supported by the sufficient development of theoretical elaboration of the foundations of the animal welfare law understood as newly emerging domain of the legal systems.

The objective of planned project is to fill this gap and undertake comprehensive exploration of the theoretical foundations of animal protection law. They include basic conceptual issues relevant for this field of regal regulation, working out the set of principles reflecting its axiological underpinnings and guiding interpretation and application of its detailed rules. Furthermore, its important part is also examination of the legal material to reconstruct and explain the main legal institutions organizing the contemporary animal protection legislation.

The project shall include elements of dogmatic and conceptual research as well as historical and comparative analyses. The outcomes shall be presented in scientific publications based on detailed and comprehensive studies on the Polish animal welfare law contributing to the domestic legal science as well as English-language publications focused on universal aspects of the theoretical foundations of the contemporary animal welfare law addressed to foreign audience and taking part in the international discourse on this kind of legal problems rapidly developing in many countries in Europe and around the world.