

## **Remotely Piloted Aircrafts in police work**

Act on the Police puts the Police's servile role towards society in the foreground and obliges Police officers to respect human dignity and to respect and protect human rights in the course of performing their duties. At the same time, Police as a uniformed and armed formation should be able to use modern tools to effectively perform its tasks. The technology of remotely piloted aircrafts (RPA) is one of those tools. Their use by the Police, being originally a military technology, without proper regulations may contribute to the excessive militarization of the Police and activities that go beyond granted authority, and as such might become a threat to citizens.

The main goal of the project is to multidimensionally examine the relationship between using RPAs by the Police to ensure public safety and protecting freedom and human rights in a democratic state ruled by law. The Police must be provided with a discretionary power that is appropriate to decide, in accordance to law, how to professionally respond to challenges and then be accountable for these decisions. At the same time the Police is a force that have a monopoly on the use of coercive measures in a democratic state, it is therefore necessary to develop appropriate control mechanisms to ensure that those measures are used in the public interest and in legally permitted areas and situations. Specific goals are subordinated to the main goal: 1) analyse existing regulations and the processes of their creation and application in Great Britain, Germany and Spain – countries where RPA technology is used by the police, and the use of this technology has been regulated in detail; 2) comparatively analyse internal country laws with European Union laws in the areas of RPA use by the police and processes of collecting, processing and storing personal data; 3) identify factors that allow effective police work in ensuring public safety in a democratic state ruled by law; 4) identify ways to regulate new technologies by having the scope of effective civil rights protection in mind.

The starting point for achieving the scientific goal is a comprehensive analysis of laws regulating RPA use by the Polish Police and police forces of selected European countries. Completion of this project's goal also requires an analysis of law application and the analysis of the processes of regulations creation. Conclusions formulated thanks to the completion of the abovementioned research tasks will allow to conduct empirical research, consisting of preparing scenarios and conducting in-depth interviews with experts from Poland, Great Britain, Germany and Spain.

Published sources remain at best preliminary to the topic. In previously conducted scientific research in Poland, problems raised in this project have not been addressed at all. In particular, in-depth analysis of RPA use by the police, its legal basis, and its effect on human rights has not been performed. The results of the conducted research will be an important contribution to broaden the knowledge about police legitimacy in a democratic society and social confidence in the police. Research also addresses threats to human rights arising from the use of RPAs and ways of regulating new technologies that enable their effective use, and at the same time protecting freedoms and civil rights.