

The goal of the project is to determine the scope of legal restrictions on entry, stay and residence of the third-country nationals (foreigners without citizenship of any EU Member State) in times of emergency (threat of terror, mass immigration, economic crisis, or health crisis) on the territories of Poland and other chosen countries (Belgium, Czech Republic, England, Germany, Lithuania, Italy, Switzerland and Poland). The choice of the research subject is justified by the contemporary human and economic situation in Europe composed with mass migration and epidemic which made the phenomenon more current. The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic reshaped the migration management and forced many countries to use the last resort tools such as border closures or travel bans to contain the spread of the epidemic. This up-to-date experience indicates a low level of preparation for solving problems of immigrants in times of emergency in the more professional manner.

The authors of the study would like to place the thesis, that contemporary legal regulations both on the national and the EU-level are not adjusted to the emergency circumstances which may arise in future. It has been proved recently entirely due to the outbreak of the pandemic of Covid-19. While conducting research the authors of the study are going also to verify a thesis, that in times of emergency the public interest prevails over individual rights, although striking a balance between public and individual interest, guided by the principle of proportionality, is a part of the decision-making process. The additional goal of the project is to create a catalogue of the best practices for the administration and judiciary in dealing with immigrants and to set up effective procedural rules which will be applied in times of emergency.

During the research selected national regulations and the EU law will be analysed. The law in action will be taken into consideration at the levels of administrative authorities and administrative courts. The specific research questions will concern such significant values like the efficiency (speed and preservation of individual's rights to a fair and public trial) of administrative and court administrative proceedings, modern (electronic) communication tools between public bodies and parties of the proceedings, discovery procedures (its flexibility and adaptation for emergency situations).

The analysis of legal restrictions on entry, stay and residence of the third-country nationals in Times of emergency on the territories of Poland and other chosen countries will be beneficial for the whole administrative law because this branch of the law will be enriched by new mechanisms adopted to special circumstances. From a practical point of view, the research will give answers to many detailed questions associated with immigrants in times of emergency. From a theoretical side, the project will give new knowledge about mechanisms governing access to the territory to the Member States by the third country nationals, the process of issuing residence permits in the EU Member States and expulsion process (issuing return decisions).