

Popular summary

An individual might lose his/her citizenship in various cases, for example, when he/she acquired it fraudulently. Without any doubt, deprivation of citizenship can significantly change the status of a person. He/she cannot avail himself of, *inter alia*, the right not to be extradited, voting rights, social benefits, right to consular protection of a state which he was citizen, etc. Apart from other reasons for deprivation of citizenship, states of Western Europe (in particular the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, and Germany) began to strip their citizens of nationality for involvement in terrorist activity. Particular provisions differ between countries in Europe, but the aim of these regulations seems to be the same: sanctioning a citizen for an act of terrorism. Such regulations may raise doubts as to whether they are compatible with human rights, in particular, those expressed by provisions of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, which are the common denominator for European countries. Therefore, the problem I address in this research is human rights constraints imposed on European states in relation to deprivation of citizenship as a sanction for acts of terrorism. The general research question can be formulated as follows: *Is deprivation of citizenship as a sanction for acts of terrorism permissible in the light of human rights (stemming from ECHR)?* And consequently: *Under what human-rights (ECHR) circumstances is deprivation of citizenship allowed?* To answer these research questions I pose six specific research questions concerning various guarantees stemming from the European Convention on Human Rights (regarding e.g. the right to private life, right to court, double jeopardy clause, abuse of rights, discrimination, etc.). I will carry out research on this subject mainly by in-depth analysis of the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights and other human-rights tribunals and confrontation of human-rights standards with legislation in the abovementioned states, which has never been done before. Because such legislation in the European states has been introduced quite recently, there is no extensive analysis of this issue, neither in the case-law (there are many cases pending before the European Court of Human Rights) nor among scholars (of course, this problem was addressed, but from different perspectives). Therefore, this research will be pioneering and can be a guidance for policy-makers and (domestic and international) courts adjudicating upon the deprivation of citizenship of an individual by constructing a human-rights frame for deprivation of citizenship.