

THE FIRE CONTROL PROCESS. DIAGNOSIS AND PROJECTION OF CHANGES

summary of the doctoral dissertation

The functioning and development of society require ensuring security at an appropriate level. One of the types of this security is fire safety. Scheduling and maintaining the appropriate level is associated with the necessity of undertaking many activities spread over time, including controlling whether these activities actually guarantee achievement of the assumed level of security.

The most important institution in Poland, which is established to control fire safety, is the State Fire Service. The set of activities performed in this area is referred to as control and recognition activity and it is a relatively permanent process covering the entire country, which in itself requires proper preparation, implementation and verification. Therefore, it is a complex activity, the aim of which should be to improve the controlled activities in such a way that the level of fire safety in Poland established and accepted by the public is achieved. Analysis of the activities of the State Fire Service, however, reveals significant shortcomings that cause that the activities undertaken by this formation do not contribute sufficiently to ensure fire safety at an appropriate level. As a result, for many years, one of the highest mortality rates in fires in buildings in the European Union has been recorded in Poland. It should also be noted that the control and recognition activity of the State Fire Service has not been the subject of research so far treating it as a well-thought-out and structured process.

An attempt to solve the above problems is made in this dissertation, the main objective of which is to *develop a projection of changes based on a cycle of organized activity in the control and recognition activity of the State Fire Service*. The main tool for improving the analyzed activity is the cycle of organized activity by H.L. Le Chatelier, which has been extended by an additional stage consisting in identifying the needs of society in the field of fire safety and on formulating the mission of the State Fire Service. This procedure resulted from the fact that each public institution should be established in order to serve the society that finances it. Therefore, the control and recognition activity of the State Fire Service should create value for the society, which means that society should gain in the sphere of security a real and objective benefit from financing this activity.

Such a determined cycle of organized activity has become a construction and a starting point for reflection on improving the State Fire Service. On it are built and described fire control stages with content in accordance with the principles of organizational and management sciences. The confrontation of this cycle and its stages with the actual control and recognition activity of the State Fire Service and the diagnosis resulted in the identification of differences between them and the determination of the improvements needed to be implemented

The structure of the doctoral dissertation results from the development of topics related to theoretical analyzes and empirical research.

In chapter I the author analyzes the literature in terms of organized activity and its individual components. He also proposed a mathematical interpretation of an organized activity that allows a better understanding of its assumptions, which can also serve as an aid in defining goals and measures of activity.

Chapter II presents issues related to the State Fire Service, including its tasks, financing, organization, operation and control process, with particular emphasis on control and recognition activity as well as principles of its planning, conducting and summarizing its results.

Chapter III is a description of three studies on the control and recognition activity of the State Fire Service conducted by the author of this dissertation, i.e. two qualitative studies: case study and SWOT/TOWS strategic analysis, as well as quantitative research in the form of surveys. The choice of their type and scope results from the author's striving for a thorough knowledge and evaluation of the analyzed activity. That is why they present a view from the center of the organization from the point of view of employees-officers, as well as from the point of view of controlled persons and representatives of local government authorities.

The conclusions from the previous three chapters were used to elaborate the last chapter IV, which is a description proposed by the author of the dissertation, a cycle of organized activity as a tool in the control and recognition activity of the State Fire Service containing the changes proposed for implementation. The indicated concept is to serve, among others, combining tasks and possibilities of control activity of the State Fire Service with the needs of society in the field of fire safety.

At the end of the dissertation, the author formulates conclusions regarding both current disabilities in the control and recognition activity of the State Fire Service as well as in the scope of proposed changes resulting from the conducted research.