

Malgorzata Skórzewska-Amberg
Kozminski University, School of Law
Jagiellonska 57/59
03-301 Warsaw, Poland
e-mail: mskorzewska@kozminski.edu.pl

Legal Aspects of Cyberspace - Freedom versus Security

Computer networks users, including in particular the Internet, have gained access to an incredibly large number of information currently available and updated.

The transfer of a large part of activities into the cyberspace has made the society heavily depended on ICT. The fact that already at the beginning of the 21st century the profits from cybercrime exceeded the profits from drug trafficking - and is now reaching the level of income from illegal and legal trade in arms¹ - clearly shows how crucial it is to adopt laws that will be able to meet the challenges of new information and communication technologies.

Security issues concerning protection of rights and freedoms of the individual are in direct connection with the issue of anonymity on the ICT. A growing problem is the use of someone else's identity. There are also legal issues related to the theft of virtual goods. Another rapidly growing problem is the high degree of violence in cyberspace.

It is in this context difficult to avoid discussing methods of securing the rights of the individual in the cyberspace, in particular a discussion about the limits of freedom of the individual in the cyberspace in relation to the duty of the state to secure the rights of this individual and others.

The development of the information society and its services should lead to further changes in the way of perceiving criminal law and the development of its provisions.

¹ B.Mejssner, <http://www.klubcio.pl/artykuly/55536/Niezbite.cyfrowe.dowody.html> (20.02.2014)