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Broadening the Horizons of Information Law and Ethics

A Time for Inclusion

How to protect rights by informing about rights? Some remarks about Polish law

Nowadays information is more precious than money. Those, who have it, have power. That's why media, especially social media, are called the „fourth power”. They could influence and shape the reality due to access to information about surrounding us reality.

Having information also could really influence on using law by individuals. However knowledge and information about law in Poland are difficult to learn and understand because of very complicated way of creating it by Polish legislator. In Poland we use to say that law is only for lawyers. Language, which is used to writing acts and its provisions is not understandable for ordinary people. It often happens, that meaning of law act provision is the topic of disputes and arguments between professional lawyers including judges and courts. Explanation of meaning of law provision could be a topic of question, which common civil court ask The Polish Supreme Court (according to article 390 of the Polish Civil Procedure Code). Accomplishing interpretation is used until it is changed by other committee of The Polish Supreme Court.

Right to be informed on meaning of provision of Polish tax law could be realised by asking Polish tax administration for „individual tax law interpretation” (article 14 b of the Polish Tax Ordinance). This interpretation is binding both for administration tax organ and tax- payer as long, as Administrative court will not eliminate it by issuing the sentence. Unfortunately, also administrative tax organ could change it by sending its second one own interpretation, so tax- payer could not be sure how long exactly the validity of this individual interpretation will last.

Above mentioned problems will be the topic of my article (speech), to be presented during the Conference (if Organisers will invite me to do so). I will focus on some aspects of the right to information on law provisions and the ways of using it by Polish law entities.

The aim of the article will be to present ways, in which information about law could influence their practical use. I will also present my point of view on correlation between financial status of individual and its access and possibility of practical using of law provisions informations.