

Cracow, September 24th, 2018

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Doctoral dissertation summary

Consecutive sentence as a *sui generis* case in the Polish criminal proceedings

The fundamental idea that consecutive sentence is a *sui generis* case in the Polish criminal proceedings, one which resides outside the traditional types of sentence, lies at the heart of this entire study. Considering the fact that a sentence is a summary of the entirety of the proceedings which took place, its form is impacted by procedural rules shaping the proceedings leading to the sentence being issued. What is, therefore, vital and essential here is not only the presentation of the normative character of a consecutive sentence, but also making references to the idea of regulating the procedure prior to the very moment of sentencing.

The dissertation is divided into five chapters. The first chapter of the work presents the proceeding as regards issuing a consecutive sentence in terms of proceedings after the rulings have become final, as regulated in chapter 12th of the Code. *Ratio legis* of the introduction of the proceedings as regards consecutive sentencing constitutes an entry point for further detailed analyses. The character of the second chapter can be described as historic, yet the deliberations contained therein are chiefly focused on practical issues. These were emerging when the provisions were being interpreted when the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1928 and Code of Criminal Procedure of 1969 were in force. This chapter also presents the most important normative revisions which took place then the current criminal law entered into effect. Chapter three describes essential procedural disparities, as far as adjudication of a cumulative penalty as part of consecutive sentencing is concerned, in relation to the main proceedings. The structure of the chapter corresponds with the most important theoretical and practical issues which appear when the application of regulations in proceedings, as regards consecutive sentencing, is concerned. Chapter four is an attempt at a holistic view of the institution of consecutive sentence and the resulting analysis is a multi-faceted one. Firstly, the term "consecutive sentence" is decoded, and additional insight is provided by the definitions pertaining to this particular judicial decision, as present in the doctrine. Then, the discussion points to the role of consecutive sentencing among other types of sentencing within the Polish criminal proceedings, as well as specifying its function and its structure. Lastly, chapter five seeks to view the proceedings regarding consecutive sentencing via the lens of primary procedural rules. This is therefore analysis of the proceeding regarding consecutive sentencing seen in the framework of values manifested by each individual rule.

Each chapter ends with closing remarks containing both the conclusions resulting from the analysis conducted, as well as the *de lege ferenda* proposals. These are propositions of normative solutions to crucial problems relating to proceeding with regard to consecutive sentencing.

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