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## Preliminary Evaluation of Pomeranian Social Prevention Program „Razem Bezpieczniej” [“More Secure Together”]

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# PRELIMINARY EVALUATION OF POMERANIAN SOCIAL PREVENTION PROGRAM „RAZEM BEZPIECZNIEJ” [“MORE SECURE TOGETHER”]

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## ABSTRACT

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The paper is a preliminary evaluation of governmental program to limit crime and antisocial behaviour „Razem Bezpieczniej” [“More Secure Together”], which was completed 15 October 2015. It is an example of institutional influence on inappropriate social attitude. The paper’s hypothesis assumed that a change in attitudes in environments subject to a program does not necessarily have to be the result of actions of the “More Secure Together”. The work is an attempt to assess the effectiveness for generation of positive change in the area of security and public order in the Pomeranian region.

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## INTRODUCTION

In the paper author assumes that prevention is an action aimed at preventing the emergence or progress of negative phenomena. The governmental program “More Secure Together” was one of the ways to respond to social phenomena that have been assessed as harmful and undesirable.

All the actions in terms of the quality of public security in Poland are now extremely valuable, because the sense of the threat of crime may cause deterioration of the standard of living, marginalization and, in particular, reducing the trust to state institutions<sup>1</sup>. Moreover, this condition does not permit person's sense of security in the immediate vicinity and the actual perception at regional and local level. Disclosure and accurate precising the security risks is the basis for establishing and creating cooperation with local communities, in order to build local security systems<sup>2</sup>. The institution traditionally responsible for security at the analysed level is the Police, performing the leading role in this area. Striving to improve security with awareness of limited abilities of the Police resulted in the search for new forms of action and enlargement the partners group, who would be able to meet the challenges and work for the improvement of security, at local and regional levels. In this area important for the Police become the institutions. An essential point of reference in description of current state and ongoing changes is a partnership of all bodies, which, due to their tasks and responsibilities and opportunities should work in favour of that security. Feelings and assessments, which are created by the actors of social life, have a large impact on actions taken by the authorities and services obliged to protect security, including local security<sup>3</sup>.

Evaluation of the "More Secure Together" program at regional and local level of the Pomeranian voivodeship tends to treat negative social phenomena in terms of threats. It is generally considered that an effective social prevention is the best way of stopping the progress or to reduce the scale of phenomena socially considered as unacceptable<sup>4</sup>. The paper is an attempt to assess the efforts taken by the participants of the program to eradicate and to reduce these phenomena.

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<sup>1</sup> See J. Gierszewski, C. Tatarczuk, *Rola prewencji kryminalnej w kształtowaniu bezpieczeństwa publicznego w Polsce na przykładzie rządowego programu „Razem Bezpieczniej”*, [in:] *Prewencja kryminality – wyzwa społeczności*, Bratysława 2010, p. 17–39.

<sup>2</sup> T. Biernat, J. Gierszewski, *Poczucie bezpieczeństwa społecznego młodzieży w małym środowisku*, Akapit, Toruń 2013, p. 169.

<sup>3</sup> J. Gierszewski, C. Tatarczuk, *Rola prewencji...*, p. 19.

<sup>4</sup> See J. Gierszewski, *Organizacja systemu bezpieczeństwa społecznego*, Difin, Warszawa 2013, p. 178.

## REGIONAL AND LOCAL SECURITY

Security, in spite of different definitions, is one of the desired values not only by persons, but also social groups and nations. From the spatial perspective, security can be seen as: global (universal); transregional, regional, local, personal (individual)<sup>5</sup>.

Processes in regional and local environments caused the necessity to take the considerations and, above all, a studies on the social evaluation of prevention programs.

Local communities generate specific values and social cohesion, create a sense of their own national identity and connection with a particular region. They can also create a negative factor, expressed in destabilizing and inhibiting progress and civilization and social development. It is generally considered that regional and local security constitute an essential condition for the development<sup>6</sup>.

Regionalisation of security results that in higher degree into consideration is taken the specificity of local risks and ways and means of prevention, particularly in matters relating to the patologisation of behavior. Of increasing importance is the shaping of regional and local security within all sorts of social prevention programs. Regional and local security covers only part of the territory of state and social community in the particular territory. This area may be a separate territory within the district (voivodeship), or involve several entities (counties and communities). As a local territory is understood a homogeneous area comprising one or more units of local self-government. Into account shall be taken awareness of the population of the area, which involves not only the identification with a specific area, but it shall be regarded as distinct from the other sites, having different traditions, habits, economic and social characteristics, often other socio-economic interests. As dictionary definition of *local* says that it is appropriate to a particular place or limited to a particular place. In contrast, the term *localism*, is used locally.

Also the *region* term should be referred to. As dictionary definition says, it is an area with a specific geographical and ethnographic fea-

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<sup>5</sup> See J. Gierszewski, *Bezpieczeństwo społeczne. Studium z zakresu bezpieczeństwa narodowego*, Difin, Warszawa 2013, p. 66.

<sup>6</sup> T. Wałek, *Struktura porządku publicznego i bezpieczeństwa społeczności lokalnej*, „Kultura Bezpieczeństwa. Nauka – Praktyka – Refleksje”, 2015, no 17, p. 195.

tures, a large part of the country with cultural specific<sup>7</sup> and regionalism is a social movement supporting cultural heritage<sup>8</sup>. Without a doubt the regionalisation of security means that local specificity of risks and the methods and means of counteraction are taken into account.

As we can see from the above, regional and local security is the protection of values and interests of any particular community by all sorts of “security institutions”, as well as provision of conditions for social development. In the area of administratively shaped local self-government units occur characteristic for them social threats: crime, road traffic accidents and all kinds of addictions.

#### **THE ROLE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE “MORE SECURE TOGETHER” PROGRAM IN POMERANIAN REGION**

Social security refers to institutions of public administration and non-governmental organisations, whose aim is to prevent negative social trends, important from the point of view of security. This causes the need to extract social administration structures from the public administration. The most important challenge is to create an appropriate level of adoption to new societal challenges and to create a new model of partnership<sup>9</sup>.

The diagram shows the actors involved in the implementation of the program at various levels. It was coordinated by the Minister of Internal Affairs and Administration. Since 2007, as a part of it, each year, voivodes presented the Minister of Internal Affairs up to 7 projects for public tasks, which could effectively support government action to improve security. The Coordinating Team, affiliated to the Minister of Internal Affairs, evaluated submitted projects (as part of the team group of experts were set up, in each of the seven areas of action of the program). Top rated projects were presented for approval of the Minister of Internal Affairs. Financial resources from the state budget of the special-purpose reserve was transferred to the budgets of voivodeships. In accordance with provisions of the “More Secure Together” program, voivode granted finances for implementation of projects in the form of funding tasks performed by non-governmental organisations and local self-government entities<sup>10</sup>.

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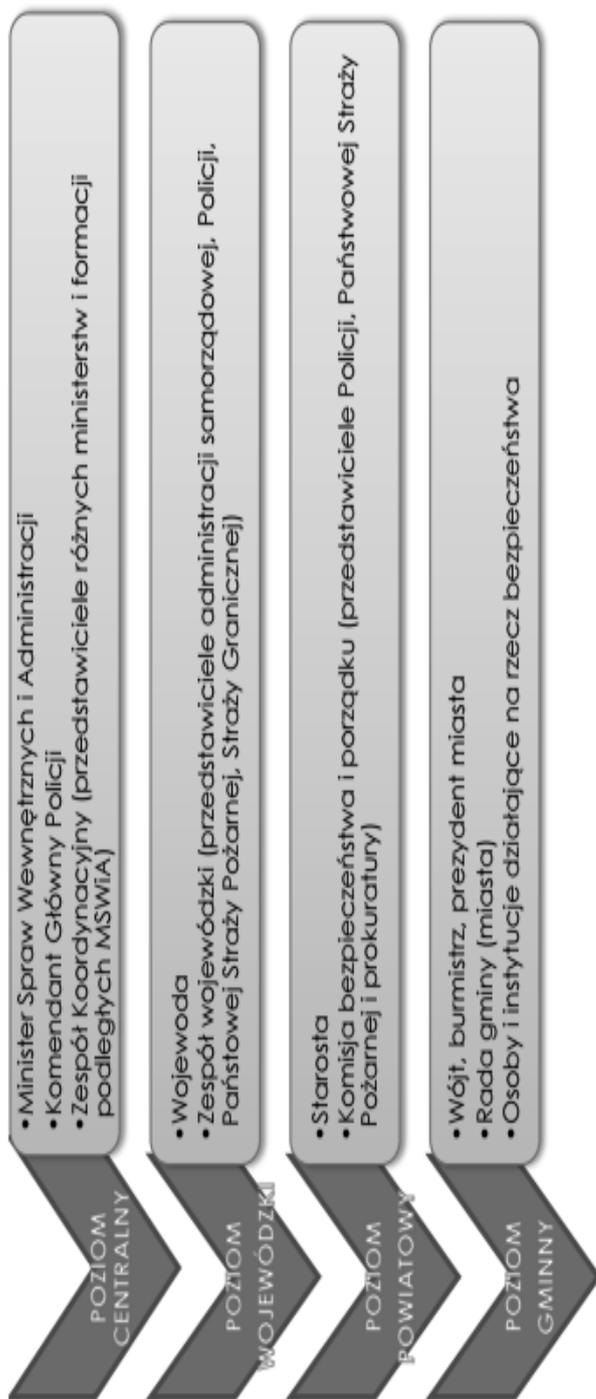
<sup>7</sup> *Mały słownik języka polskiego*, Warszawa 1995, p. 776.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>9</sup> J. Gierszewski, *Organizacja systemu bezpieczeństwa społecznego...*, p. 192.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 5–6.

DIAGRAM NO 1. ACTORS INVOLVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE “MORE SECURE TOGETHER” PROGRAM AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF IMPLEMENTATION<sup>11</sup>



Source: study of “More Secure Together” program on the development of the system of indicators for results.

<sup>11</sup> *Badanie programu „Razem Bezpieczniej” w zakresie opracowania systemu, wskaźników i rezultatów oraz ich weryfikacji na poziomie lokalnym, Ośrodek ewaluacji, Warszawa 2011, p. 5, <http://razembezpieczniej.mswia.gov.pl/download/23/8367/Raportsystemwskaznikowirezultatowrazichweryfikacijanapoziomielokalnym.pdf>, accessed 20.12.2015.*

At the level of the tasks arising from the “More Secure Together” program was coordinated by the Voivode of Pomerania with the help of team, which consisted of representatives of local self-government administration, above all, Police, State Fire Service or Border Guards. This team initiated and coordinated activities of the program in their area, collected information about its implementation, and then submitted reports and applications to the Minister of Internal Affairs<sup>12</sup>.

Counties and communities joined the program on a voluntary basis. This program was designed to provide an effective tool to support the implementation of the statutory activities of the public administration entities. In district the leading role in implementation of the program should provide starost as a head of commission for security and order, supported by district’s combined administration. While in the communities tasks of “More Secure Together” should be implement by executive authority (village mayor, mayor, president of the city)<sup>13</sup>.

Tasks carried out by work groups established by mentioned authorities, composed of representatives responsible for security and invited specialists. Partners of voivode and local authorities in implementation of programs were social organizations, social associations, foundations, churches and religious communities and various associations.

#### **SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF “MORE SECURE TOGETHER” IN POMERANIA**

Security, directly or indirectly, affects everyone. In its smallest dimension, we can talk about personal security, or entity, of which the essence is to protect and ensure conditions for implementation of vital and important social interests and against internal and external threats.

The genesis of antisocial behavior can be found in a variety of contexts. The most important include:

- a) changes in the labour market (unemployment, corruption),
- b) education (weakness of educational role of schools, school failures),
- c) culture and entertainment (commercialization, the lack of an alternative form of leisure time),
- d) the weakening of positive family model (socioeconomic status),

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<sup>12</sup> J. Gierszewski, *Bezpieczeństwo społeczne. Studium z zakresu teorii bezpieczeństwa narodowego*, Difin, Warszawa 2013, p. 212.

<sup>13</sup> See J. Gierszewski, *Zarządzanie bezpieczeństwem lokalnym (powiatu) na podstawie przeglądu kompetencji i zadań administracji publicznej*, [in:] *Bezpieczeństwo społeczności lokalnej*, A. Lewkowicz, T. Majer (eds.), UWM Olsztyn 2012, p. 185 and foll.

- e) health (mental illness, biophysical development)
- f) marginalization and social exclusion,
- g) the media (violence)<sup>14</sup>.

Prevention is an anticipating and corrective activity to fight negative criminogenic phenomena. It has to support insufficient social control, which is not able to reduce the number of delinquent behavior and re-inforce the process of socialization<sup>15</sup>. The problem of crime prevention is a complex concept which is said in the context of prophylaxis<sup>16</sup>. It is aimed at avoiding, minimizing or eliminating negative factors affecting the security and public order. Prerequisite of successful crime prevention is the proper coordination of the various institutions, the aim of which is to stop potential perpetrators before committing a crime<sup>17</sup>.

In Poland in 2007 the national program for reducing crime and anti-social behavior, named "More Secure Together"<sup>18</sup>, was implemented. Its basis was the creation of regional and local security systems in order to reduce common crime. The objectives of the program were as following: real growth of so-called "a sense" of security, crime prevention and anti-social behaviour, improvement of the image and increase in trust in the Police and other services active in the area of security and public order.

This program assumed partnership with academic research centres. Measurement tools were: statistics, opinion polls, social dialogue and working at local level and the exchange of experience in the "Bank of Good Practices".

<sup>14</sup> Comp. B. Urban, *Dewiacje wśród młodzieży. Uwarunkowania i profilaktyka*, Kraków 2001; J. Wódz, *Problemy patologii społecznej w mieście*, PWN 1989; *Zjawiskowe formy patologii społecznych oraz profilaktyka i resocjalizacja młodzieży*, T. Sołtysik, J. Sudar-Malkiewicz (eds.), Wydaw. Akademii Bydgoskiej, Bydgoszcz 2003; B. Hołyst, *Narkomania i lekomania a przestępczość*, „Problemy Alkoholizmu”, 1998, no 3; K. Ostrowska, D. Wójcik, *Teorie kryminologiczne*, Warszawa 1986.

<sup>15</sup> J. Błachut, A. Gaberle, K. Krajewski, *Kryminologia*, p. 321.

<sup>16</sup> Comp. A. Urban, *Prewencja kryminalna*, Szczytno 2006; T. Cielecki, *Prewencja kryminalna, Opole 2004; Mit represyjności albo o znaczeniu prewencji kryminalnej*, J. Czapska, H. Kury (eds.), Kraków 2002.

<sup>17</sup> The EU created the European Network for Crime Prevention on the basis of a Decision of the Council of the European Union of 28 May 2001 as part of police cooperation in the European Union. By criminal prevention is understood "any measures seeking to quantitative and qualitative reduce crime and citizens' feelings of uncertainty either by direct discouraging to criminal activities or through policies and means to reduce the potential of criminal causes of crime".

<sup>18</sup> <http://razembezpieczniej.mswia.gov.pl/>, accessed 17.12.2015.

The strategic objective is the security in: public places, schools, traffic, public transport, economic activity, home violence and protection of national heritage. There is nothing mentioned about elimination of the causes of specific risks or creating favourable conditions for security and order. You can find them in other documents constituting the need for implementation of specific areas of risks to the “More Secure Together” program<sup>19</sup>. In strategies targeted at specific social groups adopted the conduct of educational activities (bike camps, talks, training), preventive (increased number of patrols in certain places and times, sobriety control) and crisis (therapy, helpline, hostel). Forms of impacts has been left to the bodies pursuing the program<sup>20</sup>. Financing of the program was implemented in the framework of current activities, special-purpose reserve to be used in the framework of agreements with self-government administration<sup>21</sup>.

### BANK OF GOOD PRACTICES

The literature identifies three levels of crime prevention: primary, secondary and third-level<sup>22</sup>. Analysis of prevention programs in the “Bank of Good Practices” indicates that the Police local headquarters of the Pomeranian voivodeship involved in the implementation of prevention programs and registered them in accordance with the evaluation form of the program. They considered mainly strategic goals as shaping the image of the Police and, to a lesser extent for removal of the reasons, protection against repeated victimisation or prevention of repeated offences. Items directly relating to crime prevention were skipped. There are also no elements of addiction prevention of children and young people, so important in the process of socialization. They relate mainly to primary prevention, which include precriminal and information activities. The Bank of Good Prac-

<sup>19</sup> Comp. *Krajowy Program Bezpieczeństwa Ruchu Drogowego 2005–2007–2013*, Gambit 2005, objectives and priorities adopted up to 2013 should reduce the number of deaths at 17 thous. people, injured about 180 thous. people and limit the costs of road collisions about 68 billion zł. and the threat of “road security” – a part of the “More Secure Together” program (Voivodeship Police HQ’s Gdańsk; „Truck”, „Bus”, „Prędkość”, „Pasy bezpieczeństwa”, „Trzeźwość”, „Dynamiczny nadzór”, „Niechronieni uczestnicy ruchu drogowego”, „Bezpieczne powroty”).

<sup>20</sup> In my opinion, it was necessary to specify some specific parameters as in the building of “Orlik” (the number of towns, emergency hostels, etc.).

<sup>21</sup> In 2007 Pomerania voivodeship was granted 288 400 zł.

<sup>22</sup> B. Hołyst, *Psychologia kryminalistyczna*, Warszawa 2006, p. 1309.

tices was a base of proven initiatives to improve security, from which could benefit local communities in solving specific problems in their area.

The analysis of the objectives contained in the “Bank of Good Practices” indicates that reform and projective actions were marginalized in favour of typical preventive and educational<sup>23</sup>. Statistical surveys show that on the level of crime, in addition to the listed at outset, the impact may have the following factors: severity of punishment, inevitability, alcohol and drug consumption, demographic change and the level of unemployment<sup>24</sup>. Mostly on these factors are influenced by social policy, and this may not always be within the competence of the local government or self-government authorities.

The tasks for the Police in the framework of the “More Secure Together” program have been commissioned under command and guidance<sup>25</sup>. As part of these tasks, the Police voivodship HQ’s in Gdansk pursues goals mainly in terms of broad public education. This are meetings with elementary school children and teachers during which are discussed the threats on particular area or in a given period of time<sup>26</sup>. Responsible for coordinating the tasks of social prevention and implementation of crime prevention programs is the Prevention Division of the Police voivodship HQ’s in Gdansk.

#### EXAMPLES OF LOCAL PREVENTION PROGRAMS

In addition, local organizational units of the Police carried out all kinds of preventive-educational actions and their representatives participated in the festivals, events organized in districts of the Pomeranian voivodeship. Local organizational units of the Police, together with partners, implement preventive programs in the area of widely understood security, which

<sup>23</sup> Comp. Cz. Czapów, S. Jedlewski, *Pedagogika resocjalizacyjna*, Warszawa 1971, preventing is the removal of exo- and endogenous macrosocial determinants of breaking standards. See A. Krukowski, *Problemy zapobiegania przestępczości*, Warszawa 1982.

<sup>24</sup> *Cross National Studies in Crime and Justice*, D. P. Farrington, P. A. Langan, M. Tonry (eds.), Department of Justice USA, Waszyngton 2004, p. 59 quoted after: J. Czabański, *Czy kara działa? Przegląd amerykańskich badań dotyczących efektów odstraszenia i izolacji kary więzienia*, www.bezpiecznepanstwo.pl.

<sup>25</sup> [http://bip.kgp.policja.gov.pl/portals/kgp/784/2394/RZADOWY\\_PROGRAM\\_OGRANICZANIA\\_PRZESTEPCHOSCI\\_I\\_ASPOLECZNYCH\\_ZACHOWAN\\_RAZEM\\_BEZPIE.html](http://bip.kgp.policja.gov.pl/portals/kgp/784/2394/RZADOWY_PROGRAM_OGRANICZANIA_PRZESTEPCHOSCI_I_ASPOLECZNYCH_ZACHOWAN_RAZEM_BEZPIE.html), accessed: 20.12.15.

<sup>26</sup> Topics: first days in school, secure way to school, holidays, vacations, etc.

are parts of the governmental program for reducing crime and anti-social behaviour "More Secure Together", including: District Police HQ in Gdynia – Gdyński Policyjny Program Prewencyjny „Bezpieczna Przystań Gdynia”, with included subprogram targeted to pupils of first class of primary school „Policyjna Foczka uczy zasad bezpieczeństwa”; District Police HQ in Kartuzy – „Bezpieczny rower”; District Police HQ in Puck – „Maluchu Razem Bezpieczniej”; District Police HQ in Starogard Gdański – „Odpowiedzialny Gimnazjalista”; in Gdańsk „Ramowy Program Profilaktyczno-Edukacyjny Gdańskiej Policji”, „Kieruj Bez Procentów”, „Młodość Bez Procentów”, „Szkoła Bez Nudy i Nałogów”; in Słupsk „Prewencja ale inaczej”; in Chojnice „Stop agresji i przestępczości nieletnich”; in „Trzy minus”, „Bezpieczna szkoła”; in Kościerzyna „Trzy minus”, „Bezpieczna szkoła”; in Kartuzy „Żyj Normalnie”; in Malbork „Na progu dojrzałości”, „Nie biorę”; in Puck „Odłot-dokąd”, „Twardziel czy tchórz”, „Granice”; in Starogard Gdański „Odpowiedzialny Gimnazjalista”<sup>27</sup>. In each district at least one preventive program is implemented.

The analysis of regional programs (due to taken measures) indicates that they were dominated by prevention aimed at young people at the age of adolescence (junior high schools and elementary schools) mainly concerning drug prevention at local level and juvenile delinquency. They are to prevent negative behavior and strengthen desirable by attitudes. They are aimed at activity of young people who do not deal with threats in their environment (school, home). They are geared to offensive prevention that seeks to balance the influence of risk factors and protective factors<sup>28</sup>. In their intention they should have creative and innovative nature. Crime prevention has an interdisciplinary character. Requires coordinated action of not only the Police units, but educational programs, solutions for social issues or town-planning constraints. The action taken should be implemented, as recommended in the program, on the basis of cooperation with local self-governments, universities, civil society. Superficial analysis of topics indicates that preventive programs of regional Police units wear not only regional in nature, but also local, and the main recipient are mostly schoolchildren. These are educational assistance programs and do not

<sup>27</sup> [http://209.85.129.132/search?q=cache:19vAiKfdy\\_AJ:www.wrotapomorza.pl/res/BIP/PUW/sprawozdania\\_roczne\\_wojewody/sprawozdanie\\_wojewody\\_2008\\_zanr\\_1.doc+programy+prewencyjne+kwp+d%3Dgda%C5%84sk+pomorze&cd=13&chl=pl&ct=clnk&gl=pl](http://209.85.129.132/search?q=cache:19vAiKfdy_AJ:www.wrotapomorza.pl/res/BIP/PUW/sprawozdania_roczne_wojewody/sprawozdanie_wojewody_2008_zanr_1.doc+programy+prewencyjne+kwp+d%3Dgda%C5%84sk+pomorze&cd=13&chl=pl&ct=clnk&gl=pl), accessed 17.12.2015.

<sup>28</sup> Comp. J. Kwaśniewski, *Spółczesność wobec dewiacji*, Warszawa 1984.

miss a negative pressure from peers, eliminating the causes or building your own values by the youth. They lack the information if, in addition to statistical data, diagnostic tests were preceded. Definitely they have elements of training and media (propaganda). Prevention in its assumption should carry an alternative to social maladjustment and encourage positive choices and to promote a conscious and rational social development.

**THE ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE “MORE SECURE TOGETHER” PROGRAM (POMERANIAN VOIVODESHIP), A SUMMARY ATTEMPT AT REGIONAL LEVEL**

It is worth at this point, to take a look at reports (diagnostic assessments) on implementation of the tasks. Reports submitted by work groups, i. e. Security in Public Place and Place of Residence Team, generally stressed that cooperation between bodies responsible for state security was maintained at existing levels. The “More Secure Together” program caused the intensification of cooperation in eliminating and preventing crime. In the Pomeranian voivodeship in 2014 concluded a total number of 57 596 crimes which is a dynamics of 89% compared to previous year. Also in 2014 41 699 criminal offences were reported, being 92% of dynamics, comparing to 2013. Conclusions of evaluations has been mostly reduced to description of present state, with omitting important assessment of causes and forecasts. The diagnosis of causes, not just the symptoms, is of vital importance for prevention. Data from table 2 indicate clearly that over the years 2007 to 2014, we are dealing with a real reduction of crime, however this is not expressive, fulfilling expectations after implementation of the “More Secure Together” program. By comparing the number of crimes from 2007 to 2014, we can see a decrease of 4 926 crimes over a period of eight years (Pomeranian voivodeship), that can give a little optimism. However, the lowering of the dynamics of crime every year at more than 90 percent, means that the process is too slow, and thus little efficient to force involved. Also uneasy is the situation at level of communications security. The data contained in table no. 3 shows that this area of operations designated by the program (Pomeranian voivodeship), has not fulfilled the expectations, because there has been no radical reduction in quantity and quality of road accidents. In 2007 there were 3 050 inland traffic accidents, in 2014 there were 2 714. In this case, is the difference in absolute terms of 336 less crime events. However, the dynamics indicator in 2014 at 102,8%

is troublesome. Also from the tabular data it appears that between 2008 and 2011 the growth rate of traffic accidents increased to levels and 104% and 109,6%. The number of people killed as a result of these events constitutes small effectiveness in this area. During the analysed period dynamics indicator increased five times, peaking in 2011, the maximum level of the 121,5% (2 900 casualties, 147 were killed). In particular, these two priority areas presented at the “More Secure Together” program should be carefully assessed.

TABLE NO 1.

CRIMINAL OFFENCES ON THE AREA OF THE POMERANIAN VOIVODESHIP HQ'S OF THE POLICE IN GDANSK, IN THE YEARS 2007 TO 2014

Total number of criminal offences		
2007	2008	WD
46 625	46 575	99.9
2008	2009	WD
46 575	45 918	98.6
2009	2010	WD
45 918	43 486	94.7
2010	2011	WD
43 486	46 555	107.1
2011	2012	WD
46 555	45 507	97.7
2012	2013	WD
45 507	45 326	99.6
2013	2014	WD
45 326	41 699	92.0

Source: Own study based on data provided by the Police Voivodeship HQ in Gdansk

TABLE NO 2  
 CRIMES AGAINST SECURITY OF COMMUNICATION ON THE AREA OF THE  
 POMERANIAN VOIVODESHIP HQ'S OF THE POLICE IN GDANSK, IN THE YEARS 2007 TO 2014

Car accidents		Accidents with fatalities			Fatalities			Wounded		
Year	Count	2007	2008	WD	2007	2008	WD	2007	2008	WD
2007	3173	248	236	95.2	162	175	108.0	4075	4213	103.4
2008	2845	236	216	91.5	175	184	105.1	2008	2009	WD
2009	2645	216	175	81.0	184	121	65.8	4213	3704	87.9
2010	2900	175	196	112.0	209	2010	WD	2009	2010	WD
2011	2743	196	160	81.6	147	119	81.0	3704	3455	93.3
2012	2639	160	150	93.8	2010	2011	WD	2010	2011	WD
2013	2014	2013	2014	WD	2012	2013	WD	2012	2013	WD
2014	2714	150	165	110.0	119	122	102.5	3596	3452	96.0
					2013	2014	WD	2013	2014	WD
					122	128	104.9	3452	3506	101.6

Source: Own study based on data provided by the Police Voivodeship HQ in Gdansk

## AN ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF LOCAL SECURITY PROGRAMS

A question must be raised: how many preventive programs have affected and will affect the crime rate? It turns out that residents of small towns, more than inhabitants of large metropolis, are worried about dangers of trafficking and road pirates. Residents of medium-sized cities more frequently than all citizens avoid certain places, streets or people. More often they fear brawls, beatings and the theft of cars or flats<sup>29</sup>. Prevention is not only pre-criminal but also after-criminal action<sup>30</sup>. Hence is the division of prevention at: criminal, criminological, penitentiary and penal policy<sup>31</sup>. The “More Secure Together” program also refers to criminological and forensics prevention.

Crime prevention cannot be torn from the social and economic conditions. Technical protection of property is propagated by the Police at the level of so-called crime prevention. Program uses as a tool leaflets of preventive nature, talks, maps and monitoring. In assessing the level of security victimization studies shall be taken into account, which rely on asking questions about crime<sup>32</sup>. It is associated with so-called “dark number” of crimes, which is unknown to law enforcement authorities. Respondents mostly fear of: bravado drivers; property destruction by vandals; aggressive youth verbal attacks; assault; armed robbery; burglaries; aggressiveness of drunken, drug addicts; brawls, beatings.

In the analysis of programs, there is a lack of information on the link between costs and efficiency. Lawrence J. Schweinhart, together with his team, calculated that one dollar spent on crime prevention program ultimately allowed to save seven dollars (1993). Maybe it is worth to carry out such studies?

The economic dimension is for many an important element. The grant for funding prevention programs can be, after all, carried out with clearly defined criteria (relevance for the program, expected results, justifica-

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.pomorska.policja.gov.pl/serwisb.php?nr=6740>.

<sup>30</sup> A. Krukowski, *Wybrane zagadnienia nauki polityki kryminalnej*, wyd. Uniwersytet Warszawski, Warszawa 1991, p. 21.

<sup>31</sup> B. Hołyst, *Kryminalistyka*, Warszawa 1996, p. 785–787.

<sup>32</sup> A. Siemaszko, *Atlas przestępczości*, <http://docs.google.com/gview?a=v&q=cache:eydIhKSWX7sJ:razembezpieczniej.mswia.gov.pl/download.php%3Fs%3D23%26id%3D1056+siemaszko+badania+wiktyimizacyjne&chl=pl&gl=pl&sig=AFQjCNFk2d7ID8f3RWPWmqzH8K3sJbw9ZQ>.

tion of the needs, the amount of resources and the time limit may not be blurring of boundaries and freely interpreted). The important question is whether the allocated resources are adequate. In district the natural body to evaluate the programs is security commission affiliated by starost, and in voivodeship – voivode’s assembly, and funds on programs are distributed centrally. The Pomeranian Police introduced a system - Building of the local information systems on the basis of “concept of meetings with representatives of local community”.

The obligation to provide information about threats mainly have estate Police officers, what is nothing new<sup>33</sup>. The role of estate Police officer is a widely understood cooperation with local community. In his tasks we can also read that it is “the concern about security of citizens of district should be realistic and connected with work to improve the quality of life”. Unfortunately it has not been specified. Estate Police officer should seek partnerships with: school teacher, probation officer, social worker, priest, nurse, local community leaders (MPs, councillors, business people), foundations and associations. In addition, the Police officers to collect information about dangers use mass media, Internet (web forums), results of surveys, information obtained from other departments, internal information of the Police arising from citizens’ complaints, and the information obtained from the analysis of the state of security.

#### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE “MORE SECURE TOGETHER” PROGRAM AND AN ATTEMPT TO SUMMARIZE

Within the framework of the “More Secure Together” program the efficiency of local projects has to be tested in the framework of governmental program “More Secure Together” for reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, co-funded and implemented in all areas of support. The study should provide an assessment of mechanisms of its activities and to develop further recommendations. An analysis of sources of the monitoring of results adequate to the objectives set out in the applications for funding of projects should be provided. To complement these studies research team should provide online surveys and telephone interviews with the members of coordination team of the project promoters.

“More Secure Together” is one of the most important and the largest program in Poland. It focused about 400 projects, 410 self-government

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<sup>33</sup> J. Gierszewski, *Zadania i funkcje dzielnicowego w II RP*, „Policja”, 2006, no 3.

units and 45 non-governmental organizations. Estimates indicate that about 15 million people were involved in the project – these are just some of the numbers, which can sum up in the “More Secure Together”. During the 9 years it supported 397 preventative projects totaling close to 27 million zł. On particular projects applied 4 300 entities. In their realizations 410 self-government units and 45 non-governmental organizations were involved. Therefore, it should be ask the question, is this the level on which program should be terminated, or reactivated in this or a similar form.

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