

Abstract of Kamila Zimoń's doctoral dissertation entitled *The limits of police 'provocation'*  
*in the light of international and national anti-corruption standards*

The doctoral dissertation concerns one of the procedural solutions for the prosecution of corruption, in the form of the so-called controlled bribe. Taking into account the occurring evidentiary difficulties arising in connection with the prosecution and punishment of the perpetrators of corruption offences and the high social harmfulness of the crime, international regulations, as well as the legislations of certain countries, allow the use of this form of police provocation as part of special investigative (inquiry) techniques. However, in order for the evidence obtained as a result of such provocation to be admitted at criminal proceedings, the use of it should meet certain conditions, which are either set out explicitly in the law or derive from the jurisprudence of international or national courts. Failure to comply with these requirements by law enforcement authorities poses the risk of raising an allegation that the trial was unreliable, which in turn may lead to the rejection of evidence obtained in this way and often even to the acquittal of the accused for the lack of sufficient evidence of guilt. The aim of the paper is to collectively present the legal conditions for the admissibility of the so-called police provocation in the form of offering a controlled bribe based on the analysis of the legal regulations, international and domestic requirements and standards in force in this respect resulting from the court jurisprudence, as well as to evaluate from this perspective Polish regulations and the practice of their application and present proposals for the directions of possible changes.

Keywords: corruption, special investigative techniques, police provocation, limits to the use of provocation, controlled offering of financial benefit, human rights, right to a fair trial