

CRIMINAL AND INFRINGEMENT PROCEDURE PRINCIPLES GOVERNING ACTIONS OF THE POLICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA

ABSTRACT: In the Republic of Srpska, Police is the body practising state authority, entrusted with the monopol of administrative enforcement aiming at protecting the State, its citizens and its legal order from threat of force. So as to enable unobstacled performance of the tasks and duties delegated to the Police, the legislative authorities have defined this force as an unavoidable factor in all criminal and infringement procedures. This is what really makes Police the State body no criminal and infringement procedure can possibly be imagined without. When analysing the role of Police in criminal and infringement procedures, conclusion can be made that it is exactly Police who is in charge of collecting evidence necessary to initiate, successfully conduct and finalise all criminal and infringement procedures. Aiming at meeting its obligations concerning such procedures, and in the course of own practical actions, Police is entitled to restrict and limit human rights and freedoms in many different instances. Such restrictions are justified if brought about observing the Law i.e. if and when aiming to collect evidence necessary for the main court hearings, in cases and in manners envisaged by Law. In order to conduct all actions in harmony with the domestic and international legal regulations concerning human rights and freedoms protection, Police must necessarily carry out all activities observing the general principles of criminal and infringement procedures deriving from international legal documents, as well as from the general principles governing implementation of the Police authorizations.

KEY WORDS: *Police, principles, Police force functions, human rights, criminal procedure, infringement procedure*