

## **Control - the basis and substance of protection and security (What is happening to the security science?)**

**Janez Pečar, L.L.D.**, Professor of Criminology, Rozmanova 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Control of human behaviour is one of the most important activities, because it is integrated in all conscious activities. People are therefore mostly not even aware of it. However, we feel it especially in situations in which an individual has been punished or blamed for what he did wrong. At the same time as the control constitutes a basis and substance of different forms of protection and security, it is also the oldest and the most extended activity, necessary to create and maintain the needed conformity - be it on the individual, group or social level. Weaknesses arising in control and protection give rise to human vulnerability and thus present by that a threat to security, which has increasingly become privatised and commercialised.

There is a question to what degree control is also protection and how much control is included in any particular form of protection. Both of them have been increasingly institutionalised and regulated in a hierarchical and bureaucratic way. The most diverse performers of control and protection, or even of both of them, are making their appearance, which results in the transfer of certain state competencies to the private sphere and to self-organised control and protection groups, acting especially within a local community. However, the focus of their attention is directed above all to the detection of danger. In this connection, practically every protection depends basically on available control capacities, which also holds true for the prevention activity, which is also control, although "ante delictum". Here, control has proved to give the best results in situational crime prevention in which the responsibility for security has been transferred from the offenders to their victims.

Since control and surveillance are the two prevailing elements even in protection and security, doubt arises about the justification of creating a comprehensive science on protection and security, since they constitute a derivative function of control. Control for them has an entirely constitutive meaning. At the same time, there are so many different areas and demands upon security and protection that they cannot be integrated in one whole for the needs of scientific examination and corresponding theoretical elaboration.

**Keywords:** control, protection, prevention, threat, danger, vulnerability, risk, privatisation, commercialisation, institutionalisation, bureaucratisation, globalisation, conformity, criminality, science, criminology, graduate

**UDC:** 316.6/.7 + 351.74/.75