

THE STRUCTURE OF AN INTEGRATED RESCUE SYSTEM OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC: ANALYSIS OF THE BASIC LAW – EXPERIENCE FOR UKRAINE



Yevhen Lytvynovskiy

*PhD. in Pedagogical Sciences,
Senior Research Officer,
Institute of Public Administration and Research in the sphere of
Civil Protection
Kyiv, Ukraine
ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2127-8354>*



Milan Marcinek

*Ing., Ph.D., Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic,
Bratislava, Slovak Republic*



Vlastimil Vicen

*JUDr., Ing., Ph.D., Assoc. Prof., Honor. Prof., Dr.h.c., MBA, LL.M.,
Bratislava University of Economics and Management,
Bratislava, Slovak Republic
ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1336-5549>*

Abstract. The term crisis management originally originated in the early 1960s and had exclusively a military and political significance. Now, the term crisis management means a purposeful coordinated process aimed at preventing, eliminating the course and eliminating the consequences of

phenomena that threaten or are able to significantly endanger the safety of society, lives and health of people, their property and the environment.

Conducting comparative studies on the functioning of the systems of anti-crisis management of the neighboring countries of Ukraine is one of the promising directions of scientific researches on civil protection to ensure improvement of the capacity of the Unified State System of Civil Protection of Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as the USSCP), in particular, the sustainable development of society in conditions of uncertainty, including results of European integration processes in general.

The general method of research is the method of comparative analysis of systems of anti-crisis management of the countries of Europe. Expert analysis of legislative support of functioning of the Integrated Rescue System of the Slovak Republic was presented.

As a result of the study, it is determined that in the conditions of the Republic of Slovakia, the term crisis management is used outside the time of war and state of war. It is a term that defines a set of management activities of crisis management bodies, which are focused on the analysis and evaluation of security risks and threats, planning, taking preventive measures, organizing, implementing and controlling activities performed in preparation for crisis situations (outside war and war) and in addressing them.

It is determined that the specific legislation of the Republic of Slovakia is the existence of both special laws, that the functioning of structural elements of the system of anti-crisis management (bodies of state power, fire-fighting, mining-saving service, etc.), and two basic laws, "On state management in crisis situations outside the time of war and state of war" and "On the integrated rescue system". Taking into account the importance of coordination of actions of different rescue services, the article pays attention to the last one. It has been proved that at the legislative level the order of interaction of rescue services which, in the event of a threat to life, health, property or the environment, ensure above all rapid information, activation and effective use and coordination of rescue forces and resources in providing necessary assistance are clearly defined. The basis of the IRS infrastructure are coordination centers at district offices in the regional seat, whose priority task is to coordinate the activities of IRS participants in the territorial jurisdiction of the district office in the regional seat and ensure emergency calls when life, health or property is endangered. *The main tasks of the authorities, various ministries and services of the Republic of Slovakia basic and other rescue services were defined*. The direction of the further research is determined by the search for ways of implementing the best practices of crisis management in the Republic of Slovakia in the legislation of Ukraine.

Keywords: *integrated rescue system, legislation, crisis management, sources of danger, Fire and Rescue Corps, providers of rescue medical service, control chemical laboratories of civil protection, Mountain Rescue Service, Mining Rescue Service*

Introduction

Conducting comparative studies on the functioning of the systems of crisis management of the neighboring countries of Ukraine is one of the promising directions of scientific researches on civil protection to ensure improvement of the capacity of the Unified State System of Civil Protection of Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as the USSCP), in particular, the sustainable development of society in the conditions of uncertainty, including the results of European integration processes in general.

The scientific search in this direction allowed to separate the specifics of the system of anti-crisis management of the Republic of Poland, namely its preventive character, the dominance of the territorial management authority, the balanced system of interaction between different levels of management, the digitalization of the notification process, information (Borysov, Lytvynovskyi, 2021, Kozhenovski, Lytvynovskyi, 2021). On the basis of this, proposals were made to improve the functioning of the national crisis management system.

The difference between the legislative support of the crisis management system of the Republic of Slovakia, compared with the Republic of and Ukraine, is the existence of two legislative acts – the Law "on State Management in crisis situations outside War and War time", and the Law "on Integrated Rescue System", the analysis of the provisions of which is devoted to the main part of this article. The integrated rescue system looks like the USSCP at first glance, but it will be in the fact that specific rescue forces are already defined at the legislative level, the order of their coordination, assistance and study of this specificity is a scientific interest.

Literature review. The search of subscientific sources in the scientific bases of Skopus and WOS testifies to absence of comparative researches of systems of crisis management of the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovakia and Ukraine, and also there are no analytical researches on questions of legislative support of functioning of system of crisis management of the the Republic of Slovakia. The search for Ukrainian primary sources on the mentioned problem also did not give a positive result.

In this case it is advisable to apply to the analysis of the subsidized works on research of the world systems of crisis management.

Authors of the publication was noted: "Natural disasters and catastrophes not only cost the loss of human lives, but adversely affect the progress toward sustainable development of the country. As soon as disaster strikes, the first and foremost challenge for the concerned authorities is to make an expeditious response. Consequently, they need to be highly-organized, properly-trained, and sufficiently-equipped to effectively respond and limit the destructive effects of a disaster"(Kishwer Abdul Khaliq, Omer Chughtai, Abdullah Shahwani, Amir Qayyum, Jürgen Pannek, 2019).

Fundamental analytical work on the study of the crisis management system is work by authors (*Muhammad Junaid Anjum, Muhammad Shoaib Farooq, 2021*) are presented a systematic literature review of around 20 research works that was conducted by surveying different architectures and routing protocols of software defined vehicular networks in terms of any disaster related scenario. Also, different open research issues and challenges are highlighted for any kind of disaster scenario.

E. Dube (2019) in his study concluded, that through providing stronger infrastructure, resilient and sustainable communities, build-back-better supports both reconstruction and sustainable development.

We cannot ignore the work of Polish scientists Paweł Gromek, Grzegorz Gudzbeler (2021), on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the functioning of the Polish crisis management system. The article provides information not only on the management of the current pandemic, but also on the need to prepare for the next one threats of this type, including in the legislative support.

The authors of publication (Staupe-Delgado, Rubin, 2022) are identify four key themes that merit particular attention when dealing with creeping disasters: our understanding of disaster as a phenomenon; measurement and operationalization; early warning and response; and disaster management and termination. This article provides fresh perspectives on disaster science as well as a number of implications for how autors think about disaster risk reduction.

In the conditions of decentralization of public administration in Ukraine the research of Few, R., Burneo, T. A., Barclay, J., Oven, K., Phillips, J., & Rosser, N. (2022) will be useful. In paper by Michał Wisniewski (2022) discusses the integrity of Crisis Management Plans (CMP) in Poland. Integrity is understood as the unified way of developing the CMP by different public administration entities. But the impact of decentralization on crisis management systems is a separate topic of research and publication.

Analysis of the above mentioned publications shows that although they are devoted to research of some sides of systems of crisis management, one of the fundamental levers of state management of these systems is clear, comprehensive legislative support of its functioning in different conditions.

It is clear that the study of certain elements of the integrated rescue system of the Republic of Slovakia is devoted to the work of Slovak scientists.

The fundamental research on crisis management in the Republic of Slovakia is the scientific work of L. Šimák (Šimák, 2016). In the second edition of the university textbook *Crisis Management in Public Administration*, basic information on crisis management, selected legal regulations in the field of crisis management and research carried out over the past twenty years at the Department of Crisis Management of the Faculty of Security Engineering of University of Žilina.

In their publication, Janas, K.; Kucharcik, R. are considering the principles of the integrated rescue system in the Republic of Slovakia (2017).

The present article Strohmandl J, Tomek M., Molnár V., Jakubčeková J. M., Fedorko G., Maláková S. (2020) deals with the purpose and role of medical rescue service with an emphasis on mobile emergency care provision by ambulances.

In our further scientific search attention was drawn to a number of publications of M. Marcinek, which are devoted to substantiation of methodological basis of development of a typical crisis scenario of elimination of ecological accident at road and transport accident, research of organization, functioning and development of integrated rescue system (IRS) in the Republic of Slovakia, including questions of organization and management at the place of intervention of the relevant subdivisions (Marcinek, 2013; 2019).

Publication aim. As part of our comparative research we present an expert analysis of the legislative support of the Integrated Rescue System of the Republic of Slovakia.

Methods. The general method of research is the comparative analysis of systems of anti-crisis management of the countries of Europe, in this case – comparison of provisions of legislative acts of Ukraine and the Republic of Slovakia concerning functioning of the USSCP of Ukraine and Integrated Rescue System of the Republic of Slovakia respectively. The method of content-analysis of the case studies is used to analyze the latest studies on the mentioned subject. To analyze the provisions of the Law of the Republic of Slovakia, which defines the legislative basis for the functioning of the Integrated Rescue System of the Republic of Slovakia, the method of expert analysis is defined, the results of which are published in the main section of the article.

Presentation of the main results. The term crisis management originally originated in the early 1960s and had exclusively a military and political significance. At present, the concept of crisis management is taking on a broader content. According to the literature, the term crisis management means a purposeful coordinated process aimed at preventing, eliminating the course and eliminating the consequences of phenomena that threaten or are able to significantly endanger the safety of society, lives and health of people, their property and the environment.

In the conditions of the Slovak Republic, the term crisis management is used outside the time of war and state of war. It is a term that defines a set of management activities of crisis management bodies, which are focused on the analysis and evaluation of security risks and threats, planning, taking preventive measures, organizing, implementing and

controlling activities performed in preparation for crisis situations (outside war and war) and in addressing them (On state management in crisis situations outside the time of war and state of war, Law NR SR č. 387/2002).

The crisis management bodies are:

- a) The Government of the Slovak Republic;
- b) Security Council of the Slovak Republic;
- c) Ministries and other central state administration bodies;
- d) The National Bank of Slovakia;
- e) Regional Security Council;
- f) District Office;
- g) District Security Council;
- h) Municipality.

A crisis situation outside the time of war and a state of war is subsequently defined as a period during which the security of the state is immediately endangered or disturbed and the constitutional authorities may declare a state of emergency, state of emergency or emergency after meeting the conditions set out in the Constitutional Act or a special law to resolve it (On state management in crisis situations outside the time of war and state of war, Law NR SR č. 387/2002).

An important part of an effective response to a crisis is the management system of individual rescue services, i. Integrated Rescue System. The Integrated Rescue System (IRS) is a system consisting of rescue services which, in the event of a threat to life, health, property or the environment, ensure above all rapid information, activation and effective use and coordination of rescue forces and resources in providing necessary assistance. The basis of the IRS infrastructure are coordination centers at district offices in the regional seat, whose priority task is to coordinate the activities of IRS participants in the territorial jurisdiction of the district office in the regional seat and ensure emergency calls when life, health or property is endangered. To this end, a single European emergency number 112 has been set up since 1 July 2003, as is customary in the countries of the European Union. Establishing an emergency number 112 does not interfere with the use of hitherto valid emergency numbers.

By dialing the single emergency number 112, the caller will call the IRS coordination center, which will immediately take the necessary measures to provide assistance. According to available information, the 112 emergency number in European countries is,

for example, in the United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Portugal, Luxembourg, Austria, Slovenia, Turkey and the Czech Republic.

Dialing 1-1-2 is easier in difficult situations, such as in the dark or in a room full of smoke. Another advantage is that the number 112 is an emergency number almost all over Europe, which not only brings us closer to the developed countries of Europe, but also caters to foreigners in Slovakia who no longer have to find out older emergency numbers in an emergency. A novelty in the EU is the automated eCall technology built into motor vehicles, which automatically contacts 112 in the event of an accident. The EU is interested in all new cars being equipped with this technology as soon as possible.

Pursuant to the Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 129/2002 Coll., as amended, on the integrated rescue system at the organizational level: Ministry of the Interior; Ministry of Health; district offices in the seat of the region; rescue services.

The tasks provided and performed by the coordination center and the emergency call operation center are set out in Act No. 129/2002 Coll. on the Integrated Rescue System, which precisely determines the focus of their activities and activities.

In the Integrated Rescue System there are rescue units divided according to the Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 129/2002 Coll., As amended, on the integrated rescue system for: basic rescue services; other rescue services; police forces.

The basic rescue services shall immediately provide professional, medical, technical and other necessary assistance in an emergency on the basis of an instruction from the coordination center or their emergency call operation center. They shall implement organizational, technical and other measures to provide assistance in distress and shall be provided with technical and material resources for that purpose. They process data on their activities, forces and resources and submit them to the regional authority by the end of February for the previous calendar year; in the case of emergency medical service providers, also to the Ministry of Health. They usually perform their activity in their intervention district. They are divided into: Fire and Rescue Service; emergency medical service providers; Control chemical

laboratories of civil protection; Mountain Rescue Service; Mining rescue service.

Fire and Rescue Service. On April 1 in 2002, a new comprehensive regulation in the field of fire protection and rescue activities came into force, which created the conditions for the application of more flexible and effective legal relations in terms of resolving related organizational, economic-technical, preventive-educational, personnel and other issues. of the newly constituted Fire and Rescue Corps. The basic legal regulations in the field of fire protection are Act No. 314/2001 Coll. on fire protection and Act No. 315/2001 Coll. about Fire and Rescue Service (On fire protection, Law 314/2001 Z. z. ; About Fire and Rescue Service, Law 315/2001 Z. z.).

The Presidium of Fire and Rescue Service is an organizational unit of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic, which fulfills its tasks in the field of fire protection, central management and control of preparation for flood rescue work and, to a limited extent, participates in fulfilling the tasks of the integrated rescue system. The Presidium is headed by the President of the Church, who directs it and is responsible for its activities and the performance of service and work tasks.

The Presidium manages the facilities: Fire Engineering and Expertise Institute of the Ministry of the Interior in Bratislava; Secondary School of Fire Protection of the Ministry of the Interior in Žilina; rescue brigades of fire and rescue service in Malacky, Žilina and Humenné; Fire and Rescue Corps of the capital of the Slovak Republic in Bratislava.

The executive components of the Fire and Rescue Corps are 8 regional directorates and 51 district directorates.

The Regional Directorate of Fire and Rescue Service manages the performance of state administration in the area of fire protection in its territorial district, assesses documentation of buildings of special importance in terms of their fire safety, assesses documentation of domestic technological equipment, concentrates and deploys fire brigades to fight large fires, natural disasters or other emergencies. within the region, identifies the causes of fires, verifies the professional competence of fire protection technicians, issues certificates of their professional competence, directs and

supervises the fulfillment of state fire supervision tasks in district directorates and municipalities, organizes and performs preventive and educational activities, as well as professional methodological and consulting.

The Fire and Rescue District Directorate concentrates and deploys fire brigades to fight fires, natural disasters or other extraordinary events within the district, ensures the activities of HaZZ intervention units in the district, finds out the causes of fires, develops a flood rescue plan of its territorial district, performs fire control obligations. designated legal entities and natural persons engaged in business, controls municipalities in the area of state administration in the field of fire protection, issues decisions on permitting the combustion of flammable substances and waste in the open air and on consent to organize a public event.

Fire and Rescue Service units of Rescue Brigade is a facility of the Presidium of the Fire and Rescue Corps to ensure the tasks of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in the field of rescue, localization and liquidation work in the event of emergencies and natural disasters. The headquarters of the rescue brigades of Fire and Rescue Service are located in Malacky, Žilina and Humenné.

Emergency medical service is the basic rescue component of the integrated rescue system, which performs rescue medical service in the intervention area according to the instructions of the coordination center of the integrated rescue system and the operational center of the rescue medical service. The intervention area is the territory of the Slovak Republic.

According to Act No. 579/2004 Coll. on emergency medical services (On emergency medical services, Law 579/2004 Z. z), as amended, to perform the following activities: manage and coordinate the emergency medical service so as to ensure its continuity and continuity; provide training for its employees; provide audio recordings of the reception of an emergency call and the implementation of the emergency call response; keep records for ten years from the date of their creation.

Emergency medical service operations centers are entitled to instruct the healthcare provider to intervene if necessary. The emergency medical service provider's emergency operations center shall receive instructions from the coordination center or

the emergency medical service operations center to intervene, to ensure emergency transport and to ensure that intervention and emergency transport are carried out on the basis of instructions.

Civil protection chemical control laboratories. Chemical Control Laboratories are specialized in carrying out monitoring, research, activities in the field of hazardous substances and combat poisons.

There are three chemical control laboratories operating in the Slovak Republic located in Nitra, Slovenská Ľupča and Jasov. If necessary, the laboratory is requested by the intervention commander or the coordination center of the relevant regional authority.

The Mountain Rescue Service is established by Act No. 544/2002 Coll. on the Mountain Rescue Service (On the Mountain Rescue Service, Law 544/2002 z.z.). It carries out its activities in mountain areas, including caves and abysses, which are defined in § 3 of Act no. 544/2002 Coll. on the Mountain Rescue Service.

The Mountain Rescue Service is managed and responsible for its activities by a director, who is appointed and removed by the Minister. The director is the statutory body of the Mountain Rescue Service.

Subject of activity of the Mountain Rescue Service in mountain areas: organizes and performs rescue activities in the rescue of persons, especially in cooperation with the air rescue medical service; provides information related to the safety of persons; locates and maintains, in consultation with the owner, administrator or user of the property in the mountain area, warning, information and other devices related to the safety of persons; implements measures related to avalanche danger; participates in the search for missing persons; performs blasting work in connection with avalanche danger.

The Mountain Rescue Service performs tasks within the integrated rescue system on the territory of the Slovak Republic and, if necessary, also outside the territory of the Slovak Republic; in doing so, it cooperates with other components of the integrated rescue system of the Ministry and other central state administration bodies.

Organizational breakdown: Directorate of the Mountain Rescue Service; regional centers of the Mountain Rescue Service; other

workplaces of the Mountain Rescue Service established with the consent of the Ministry.

Mining rescue service. The importance of the mining rescue service in the mining sector is very important and irreplaceable. Among the main and certainly the most important tasks is, above all, the rescue of miners who are in direct danger of life or health in various accidents, and the very essence of rescue lies in taking them out of endangered areas, associated with the provision of first aid. Intervention activities are not always directed only underground, but also on the surface, if the course of underground work is endangered.

The activity, tasks, organization and competence of the mining rescue service are defined by Act No. 51/1988 Coll. on mining activities, explosives and the state mining administration (On mining activities, explosives and the state mining administration, Law 51/1988 Zb). The task of the mining rescue service is to perform rescue work, quick and effective interventions on: saving human lives and property in the event of serious operational accidents, including the provision of first aid underground; dealing with serious operational accidents, in particular gas and coal dust explosions, mining fires, rock and gas ruptures, oil and gas eruptions, floods, gases, mud and liquid sands, mining collapses and failures; elimination of the consequences of accidents.

The organization of the mining rescue service is currently adapted to the structure of the mine. The main role of the mining rescue service is to perform work to save lives and property, in major operational accidents,

including the provision of medical first aid in the underground, to perform work in a non-breathable or harmful environment and other special hazardous work, e.g. work at heights above free depth and overcoming serious operational accidents in deep mines. At present, the mining rescue service has a two-level organizational structure, the main mining rescue station and racing mining rescue stations.

Other rescue services shall provide professional, medical, technical and other necessary assistance in an emergency upon request from the coordination center or the emergency call operation center, or upon instruction from their dispatch center. They shall, upon request, communicate to the coordination center details of their forces and resources which they may provide for intervention and details of how they have been activated for the purposes of drawing up the assistance plan and, in the event of a call for intervention. They shall implement measures relating to their integration into the information and communication network of the integrated rescue system, including the provision of communications. They participate in training.

They are divided into: armed forces of the Slovak Republic; voluntary (municipal) fire brigades; industrial fire brigades; fire department units; workplaces performing state supervision; civil police; Slovak Red Cross; other legal entities and natural persons whose object of activity is to provide assistance in the protection of life, health and property.

Conclusions

In the conditions of the Slovak Republic, the term crisis management is used outside the time of war and state of war. It is a term that defines a set of management activities of crisis management bodies, which are focused on the analysis and evaluation of security risks and threats, planning, taking preventive measures, organizing, implementing and controlling activities performed in preparation for crisis situations (outside war and war) and in addressing them.

The survival of the society thus depends on the level of readiness, the quality of the crisis management team, the effectiveness of the implementation of the crisis plan and its monitoring during and after the crisis situation.

The specific legislation of the Republic of Slovakia is the existence of both special laws concerning the functioning of structural elements of the system of anti-crisis management (state authorities, fire-rescue, mining-rescue service, etc.) and two basic laws, "On state management in crisis situations outside the time of war and state of war" and "On the integrated rescue system".

At the legislative level, the order of interaction of rescue services which in the event of a threat to life, health, property or the environment, ensure above all rapid information, activation and effective use and coordination of rescue forces and resources in providing necessary assistance is clearly defined.

The basis of the IRS infrastructure are coordination centers at district offices in the regional seat, whose priority task is to coordinate the activities of IRS participants in the territorial jurisdiction of the district office in the regional seat and ensure emergency calls when life, health or property is endangered.

The direction of the further research is determined by the search for ways of implementation of the best practices of crisis management (functioning of the integrated rescue system) in the legislation of Ukraine.

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