

**Dz.U.2005.180.1493**

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|------------|------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 2010-03-12 | as amended | Dz.U of 2010 no 28, item 146   | Article 16  |
| 2010-06-08 | as amended | Dz.U. of 2009 no 206 item 1589 | Article 9   |
| 2010-08-01 | as amended | Dz.U. of 2010 no 125 item 842  | Article 1   |
| 2012-01-01 | as amended | Dz.U. of 2011 no 149 item 887  | Article 221 |

**THE ACT**

of 29 July 2005

**on counteracting domestic violence**

(Dz. U. of 20 September 2005)

Considering that domestic violence is an infringement on fundamental human rights, including the right to life and health and the respect of personal dignity, and public authorities are obliged to assure that all citizens be treated equally and their rights and freedoms respected, and in order to improve the efficiency of counteracting domestic violence, the Act shall provide, as follows:<sup>(1)</sup>

**Article 1. The Act shall define:**

- 1) tasks with regard to counteracting domestic violence;
- 2) principles of conduct toward victims of domestic violence;
- 3) principles of conduct toward perpetrators of domestic violence.

**Article 2. The terms in the Act are defined as follows:**

- 1) family member – shall be understood as the nearest relative within the understanding of Article 115 (11) of the Act of 6 June 1997 - the Criminal Code (Dz. U. no 88, item 553, as amended<sup>1)</sup>), and other person sharing residence or household;
- 2) domestic violence – shall be understood as a single or recurring wilful action or negligence infringing upon the personal rights or wellbeing of persons listed in point 1, in particular exposing these persons at the risk of losing life, health, compromising their dignity, physical integrity, freedom, including sexual freedom, causing damage to their physical or psychical health, and causing pain and moral suffering in persons subjected to violence.

**Article 3.** <sup>(2)</sup> 1. A person suffering from domestic violence shall receive free-of-charge assistance, in particular in the form of:

- 1) medical, psychological, legal, social professional and family counselling;
- 2) crisis intervention and support;
- 3) protection from further harm by preventing the abusers from using a flat occupied together with other family members and prohibition on contacts with a victim and a restraining order to stay away from them;
- 4) provision of a safe shelter in a specialist centre of support to victims of domestic violence for a person affected by domestic violence;
- 5) medical examination to identify the causes and types of injuries resulting from domestic violence and to issue a medical certificate in that respect;
- 6) provision of assistance in finding a place to live to a person that experiences domestic

violence and does not have any legal title for the premises occupied together with an offender.

2. The Minister competent for health issues shall determine, by means of an ordinance, the template medical certificate on causes and type of injuries relative to domestic violence, considering the usefulness of the certificate for legal protection of a person suffering from domestic violence.

**Article 4.** With regard to the perpetrators of domestic violence, measures set forth in the present Act aiming at preventing their contact with victims and corrective and educational measures shall be enforced.

**Article 5.**<sup>(3)</sup> The minister competent for social security shall specify, by means of an ordinance :

- 1) the standard for basic services provided by specialised support centres for victims of domestic violence,
  - 2) qualifications of persons employed in specialised support centres for victims of domestic violence,
  - 3) detailed guidelines for corrective and educational measures addressed to the perpetrators of domestic violence,
  - 4) qualifications of persons conducting corrective and educational measures
- considering the need to adapt the scope of assistance to the situation and needs of persons suffering from domestic violence and the efficiency of services provided by specialised support centres for victims of domestic violence and efficiency of corrective and educational measures addressed at perpetrators of domestic violence.

**Article 6.** .<sup>(4)</sup> 1. Tasks regarding counteracting domestic violence are implemented by government administration bodies and territorial self-government units pursuant to the provisions of the Act of 12 March 2004 on social assistance (Dz. U. of 2009, No 175, item 1362 as amended<sup>2)</sup>) or the Act of 26 October 1982 on upbringing in sobriety and counteracting alcoholism (Dz. U. of 2007, no 70, item 473, as amended<sup>3)</sup>), unless provisions of the present Act specify otherwise.

2. Own tasks of a municipality include, in particular, the development of the municipal system of preventing domestic violence, including:

- 1) development and implementation of the municipality programme for preventing domestic violence and protecting its victims;
- 2) counselling and intervention on preventing domestic violence in particular by means educational measures strengthening caretaking and upbringing skills of parents in families at risk of domestic violence;
- 3) providing places in support centres for victims of domestic violence.
- 4) establishing interdisciplinary councils.

3. Own tasks of a poviát shall include in particular:

- 1) development and implementation of the municipality programme for preventing domestic violence and protecting its victims;
- 2) development and implementation of programmes oriented at preventive measures, which are aimed at specialised support, in particular regarding promotion and implementation of correct upbringing methods for children at risk of domestic violence;
- 3) providing places in support centres for victims of domestic violence.

4) providing places in crisis intervention centres for victims of domestic violence.

4. The tasks of the government administration implemented by poviats include in particular:

- 1) establishing and developing specialised support centres for victims of domestic violence;
- 2) development and implementation of programmes for corrective and educational measures for perpetrators of domestic violence.

5. Funds for implementation and service of the tasks specified in ( 4) shall be granted by the State budget.

6. Own tasks of voivodeship self-government shall include in particular:

- 1) development and implementation of voivodeship programme for prevention of domestic violence;
- 2) inspiring and promoting new solutions on prevention of domestic violence;
- 3) development of framework protection programmes for victims of domestic violence and framework corrective and educational programmes for perpetrators of domestic violence;
- 4) organising training for persons implementing tasks related to the prevention of domestic violence.

**Article 6a..** <sup>(5)</sup> Persons in charge of specialised support centres for victims of domestic violence must fulfil the qualification requirements set forth in Article 122 of the Act of 12 March 2004 on social assistance.

**Article 7.** <sup>(6)</sup> 1. Tasks of the voivode shall include in particular:

- 1) development of instructions, recommendations, procedures of intervention conduct in crisis situations related to domestic violence for persons implementing these tasks.
- 2) monitoring domestic violence;
- 3) appointing and recalling the Voivodeship Coordinator for the Implementation of the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence;
- 4) monitoring the implementation of the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence with the assistance of the Voivodeship Coordinator for the Implementation of the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence;
- 5) supervision over the implementation of tasks regarding counteracting domestic violence implemented by the municipal, poviats and voivodeship self-governments;
- 6) control of the implementation of preventive measures on domestic violence by non-public entities on the basis of agreements with government and self-government administration institutions.

2. Supervision and control, referred to in (1) (5) and (6) shall be governed by provisions of Articles 126-133 of the Act of 12 March 2004 on social assistance.

3. The minister competent for social security shall specify by way of ordinance:

- 1) the organisation and the course of conducting control and inspection, qualifications of the inspectors authorised to perform supervision and controlling activities as well as the specimen of the identification card entitling to perform supervision and controlling activities.
- 2) qualifications of the Voivodeship Coordinator for the Implementation of the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence;

- with the view of ensuring a proper level of performance of such tasks.

**Article 8.** <sup>(7)</sup> . Tasks of the minister competent for social security shall include in particular:

- 1) commissioning and funding of research, experts' opinions and analyses relating to domestic violence;

- 2) promoting social awareness raising on origins and effects of domestic violence;
- 3) appointing and recalling the National Coordinator for the Implementation of the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence in the rank of Secretary or Undersecretary of State in the office of the Minister competent for social security;
- 4) monitoring the implementation of the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence with the assistance of the Coordinator referred to in (3);
- 5) development and publishing at least every two years of guidelines for training on prevention of domestic violence;
- 6) development and financing of protection programmes on prevention of domestic violence;
- 7) financial support of programmes on prevention of domestic violence implemented by:
  - a) territorial self-government units;
  - b) non-governmental organisations active in the field of prevention of domestic violence;
  - c) organisational units that operate pursuant to the regulations on relations between the State and the Catholic Church in the Republic of Poland, on relations between the State and other churches and religious organisations and on the guaranteed freedom of conscience and religion, should their statutory objectives cover activities in the field of prevention of domestic violence.

**Article 8a.** <sup>(8)</sup> Tasks of the General Prosecutor include the development and publication at least every two years of guidelines on principles of conduct for general organisation units of the prosecutor's office on prevention of domestic violence.

**Article 9.** 1. Government and self-government institutions shall cooperate with non-governmental organisations and churches and religious organisations on supporting victims of domestic violence, corrective measures toward perpetrators of domestic violence and raising social awareness on origins and consequences of domestic violence.

2. <sup>(9)</sup> Government or self-government administration institutions may commission tasks specified in the Act in the mode set forth in the Act of 24 April 2003 on public benefit activity and volunteering (Dz. U. No 96, item 873 as amended<sup>4</sup>).

**Art. 9a.** <sup>(10)</sup> 1. A municipality shall undertake measures for counteracting domestic violence, in particular within the activities of an interdisciplinary council.

2. The interdisciplinary council shall be appointed by the voivode, the mayor or president of a city.

3. The interdisciplinary group shall be composed of the representatives of:

- 1) organisational units of social assistance,
- 2) municipality committees for solving alcohol problems;
- 3) the Police;
- 4) education institutions;
- 5) healthcare institutions;
- 6) non-governmental organisations.

4. The interdisciplinary group shall also include court guardians.

5. The interdisciplinary council may also include prosecutors and representative of entities other than specified in (3), active in the field of prevention of domestic violence.

6. The leader of the interdisciplinary council shall be appointed at the first meeting of the team from among its members.

7. Council meetings are held as needed, not less often than once every three months.

8. The interdisciplinary council shall act pursuant to agreements concluded between the voivode, the mayor or president of a city, and the entities listed in (3) or (5)

9. Organisational and technical services to the interdisciplinary council shall be provided by a social assistance centre.

10. The interdisciplinary council may appoint working groups to solve problems relative to domestic violence in individual cases.

11. Working groups shall be composed of representatives of:

- 1) organisational units of social assistance,
- 2) municipality committees for solving alcohol problems;
- 3) the Police;
- 4) education institutions;
- 5) healthcare institutions;

12. Working groups may also include court guardians, and representatives of other entities, experts in the area of counteracting domestic violence.

13. Members of the interdisciplinary council and working groups shall perform tasks as a part of their professional duties.

14. Works in working groups are run depending on the needs communicated by the interdisciplinary council or resulting from problems in individual cases.

15. The municipality council shall determine, by means of an ordinance, the mode and way of appointing and recalling members of the interdisciplinary council and detailed conditions for its activity.

**Article 9b.**<sup>(11)</sup> 1. The interdisciplinary council shall implement tasks determined in the municipality's programme for counteracting domestic violence and protection of victims of domestic violence.

2. The interdisciplinary council shall integrate and coordinate activities of entities listed in Article 9a (3) and (5) and specialists on prevention of domestic violence, in particular by:

- 1) diagnosing the problem of domestic violence;
- 2) taking actions in the environment at risk of domestic violence, aiming at prevention of domestic violence;
- 3) initiating interventions in the environment where domestic violence occurs;
- 4) disseminating information on institutions, persons and opportunities for support in local environment;
- 5) initiating actions aimed at perpetrators of domestic violence.

3. Tasks of working groups shall include in particular:

- 1) development and implementation of support plans for individual cases of domestic violence;
- 2) monitoring of the situation of families where domestic violence occurs and families at risk of such violence;
- 3) documenting activities undertaken towards families where domestic violence occurs and results of these activities.

**Article 9c.**<sup>(12)</sup> 1. Members of the interdisciplinary council and working groups may, within the scope necessary for the performance of tasks listed in Article 9b (2) and (3) may process personal data of victims of domestic violence and perpetrators of domestic violence, concerning health, addictions, convictions, decisions on sanctions, and other decisions issued in court or administrative proceedings, without knowledge or consent of the persons concerned.

2. Members of the interdisciplinary council and working groups shall be obliged to keep all

information and data received in the course of the implementation of tasks referred to in Article 9b (2) and (3) confidential. This obligation shall extend to the period after the expiry of the membership of the interdisciplinary council and working groups.

3. Prior to the execution of tasks referred to in Article 9b (2) and (3), members of the interdisciplinary council and working groups shall submit to the institution referred to in Article 9a (2), a following declaration: “I hereby declare that I will keep information and data received in the course of task implementation relative to preventing domestic violence confidential and that I am aware of the provisions on criminal responsibility for providing access to these personal data to unauthorised persons.”.

**Article 9d.**<sup>(13)</sup> 1. Taking interventions in the environment against a family where domestic violence occurs shall be based upon the „Blue Card” procedure and shall not need consent of the victim to the domestic violence.

2. The “Blue Card” procedure covers the general actions taken and implemented by representatives of organisational units of social assistance, municipal committees for solving alcohol problems, the police, education institutions and healthcare institutions, in relation to justified suspicion of domestic violence.

3. Representatives of entities specified in (2) shall execute the „Blue Card” procedure on the basis of the principle of cooperation and shall inform the leader of the interdisciplinary council of the measures taken.

4. The launching of the “Blue Card” procedures shall take place by means of filling of the “Blue Card” form in the event of a suspicion of domestic violence arising in the course of professional tasks performance, or as a result of notification by a family member of a witness to domestic violence.

5. The Council of Ministers shall determine, by means of a regulation, the “Blue Card” procedure and template “Blue Card” forms, filled in by representatives of entities implementing the “Blue Card” procedure, taking into consideration the effectiveness of activities addressed at victims of domestic violence and their wellbeing.

**Article 10.**<sup>(14)</sup> 1. To create conditions for efficient prevention of domestic violence, the Council of Ministers shall adopt the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, which sets forth detailed activities concerning:

- 1) providing protection and assistance to victims of domestic violence;
- 2) corrective and educational measures addressed to the perpetrators of domestic violence,
- 3) rising social awareness of origins and consequences of domestic violence and promoting violence-free approaches to upbringing;
- 4) disseminating information about opportunities for and forms of assistance for both victims and perpetrators of domestic violence.

2. The National Programme for Prevention of Domestic Violence at the central level, shall be implemented by the Coordinator referred to in Article 8 (3).

3. The National Programme for Prevention of Domestic Violence at the voivodeship level, shall be implemented by the Coordinator referred to in Article 7 (1) (3).

**Article 10a.**<sup>(15)</sup> 1. The Monitoring Team for Prevention of Domestic Violence shall be called, hereinafter “the Team”, as an advisory and counselling body for the Minister competent for social assistance.

2. The tenure of the Team shall be 3 years.

3. The tasks of the Team shall include in particular:

- 1) initiating and supporting preventive measures for domestic violence;
- 2) monitoring the preventive measures for domestic violence;
- 3) opinion-giving on matters related to the execution of the Act and initiating amendments to the law on preventing domestic violence;
- 4) opinion giving in the event of a dispute between public administration institutions and non-governmental organisations implementing tasks on prevention of domestic violence;
- 5) opinion giving on matters of public tasks on prevention of domestic violence and on commissioning of these tasks by entities listed in Article 9 (1);
- 6) development of standards of assistance to victims of domestic violence and work with perpetrators of domestic violence;
- 7) establishing – in co-operation with non-governmental organisations and other entities referred to in Article (9) (1), mechanisms for informing about standards of supporting victims of domestic violence and work with perpetrators of domestic violence;
- 8) disseminating results of monitoring of preventive measures of domestic violence.

**Article 10b.**<sup>(16)</sup> 1. The Minister competent for social assistance shall appoint as members of the Team:

- 1) the National Coordinator for the Implementation of the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence;
- 2) seven representatives of government administration units and their subordinate units from among persons shortlisted by these institutions and managing these institutions;
- 3) five representatives of territorial self-government units selected from among candidates nominated by local government authorities in the Joint Central and Local Government Committee.
- 4) ten representatives of non-governmental organisations, associations and unions of non-governmental organisations, churches and religious organisations appointed from among the persons shortlisted by these entities.

2. The minister responsible for social security shall dismiss a Council Member prior to the expiry of the assigned term of office:

- 1) upon his or her request;
- 2) at the request of the entity they represent;
- 3) in the event they have been sentenced for an intent crime or intent tax offence.

**Article 10c.**<sup>(17)</sup> 1. The National Coordinator for the Implementation of the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence shall be the Leader of the Team.

2. Meetings of the Team shall be called by the Leader of the Team or upon the request of no less than one fourth of the Member, at least once in six months.

3. The members of the Team shall take time off from work in order to participate in the meetings of the Team and they shall be entitled to reimbursement of travel expenses with the funds provided for in the budget of the minister competent for social security.

**Art. 10d.**<sup>(18)</sup> Government administration bodies and their subordinate organisation units, at the request of the Team Leader, shall provide all assistance necessary for the Team to the performance of their tasks, in particular, the necessary information or documents.

**Article 10e.**<sup>(19)</sup> The office responsible for providing administrative and office services to

shall also provide administrative and office services to the Team.

**Article 10f.** <sup>(20)</sup> The Minister competent for social security shall determine, by means of ordinance, the mode of appointing members of the Team and organisation and mode of acting of the Team, and the principles of participation in its works, taking into consideration the need to provide the adequate level of task performance.

**Article 11.** <sup>(21)</sup> The Council of Ministers shall submit by 30 September, an annual report on the implementation of the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence to the Sejm and Senate of the Republic of Poland.

**Article 11a.** <sup>(22)</sup> 1. If a family member residing at the same address, due to acts of domestic violence makes joint residence particularly burdensome, the victim of domestic violence may demand that the court make the perpetrator leave the residence.

2. The court shall investigate the matter on the basis of provisions of the Act of 17 November 1964 - the Code of Civil Procedure (Dz. U. no 43, item 296 as amended) on non-contentious proceeding. The decision shall be taken following the proceedings which should take place within one month from the application date. It enters into force as of the day of announcement and may be amended or repealed should circumstances change.

3. Execution of the obligation determined on the basis of (1) shall be done pursuant to the provisions on the execution of the obligation to leave the premises serving to fulfil the accommodation needs of the debtor.

**Article 12.** <sup>(23)</sup> 1. Persons who, due to the performance of their professional duties suspect that a crime of domestic violence, persecuted ex officio, shall inform the Police or prosecutor's office immediately.

2. Witnesses to domestic violence should inform the police, prosecutor or other entity preventing domestic violence about the occurrence.

**Article 12a.** <sup>(24)</sup> 1. <sup>(25)</sup> In the event of direct risk to life or health of a child due to domestic violence, a social worker performing professional duties has the right to remove the child from the family and put it at another relative's household, in the understanding of Article 115 (11) of the Act of 6 June 1997 - The Criminal Code (Dz. U. No 88, item 553 as amended), in foster care or care and education centre.

2. <sup>(26)</sup> The mode of putting children in foster care of care and education centre is regulated by the provisions of the Act of 9 June 2011 on supporting family and foster care system (Dz. U. No 149, item 887).

3. A decision referred to in (1) shall be taken by a social worker in agreement with a police officer and a physician or paramedical practitioner or a nurse. Provisions of Articles 598<sup>10</sup>, 598<sup>11</sup> (3) and 598<sup>12</sup> (1) first sentence of the Act of 17 November 1964 – the Code of Civil Procedure shall apply accordingly.

4. <sup>(27)</sup> The social worker shall be obliged to immediately inform a guardianship court no later than within 24 hours about the removal of a child from a family and putting it at an immediate family member's with a separate place of residence, in a foster family or a round-the-clock care and education centre.

5. <sup>(28)</sup> With regard to putting the child at an immediate family member's with a separate place of residence, provisions on putting the child in a foster family or a round-the-clock care and



education centre shall apply.

6. The Minister competent for internal affairs, in cooperation with the Minister competent for social security shall determine, by means of an ordinance, the procedures for Police concerning measures set forth in (1) and (3) and the manner of recording the measures by Police, taking into consideration the need to provide effective support for children.

**Article 12b.** <sup>(29)</sup> 1. The parents, legal guardians or the actual custodians shall have the right to file an appeal to the guardianship court against the removal of their child from them, as set forth in article 12a. The appeal may demand that justification and compliance with legal provisions, as well as manner of execution of the child's removal be investigated.

2. The appeal may be submitted by the intermediary of a social worker or police officer who removed the child. In such a case the appeal shall be submitted to the guardianship court immediately.

3. The court shall investigate the appeal immediately, no later than within 24 hours. Should the child removal be deemed unjustified or illegal, the court shall determine immediate return of the child to the parents, legal or actual guardians the child had been removed from.

4. If the unjustified, illegal or incorrect child removal is determined, the court shall inform the superiors of the persons who removed the child about the fact.

**Article 12c.** <sup>(30)</sup> The social worker or police officer shall inform the parents, legal or actual guardians about their right of appeal with the indication of the competent guardianship court. The information should be delivered in writing.

**Article 12d.** <sup>(31)</sup> 1. In the event of professional court guardian's request for the execution of suspended penalty of imprisonment or cancelling conditional early release for a person sentenced for a crime involving violence or unlawful threat toward a family member, who, in the probationary period, significantly infringed upon the legal order, by using violence or unlawful threat toward a family member, the competent court shall order the arrest and compulsory appearance of the convict to the hearing on the request.

2. The arrested, at their request, should be allowed immediate contact with a lawyer, including direct conversation.

3. The court decision on the execution of the penalty or revoking of conditional early release shall be executed as of the date of the issuance, the court issuing the decision or the court competent for processing the appeal may suspend the execution of the decision.

**Article 13.** <sup>(32)</sup> (repealed).

**Article 14.** <sup>(33)</sup> (repealed).

**Article 15.** The Act of 6 June 1997 – The Criminal Code (Dz. U. No. 88, item 553 as amended<sup>5)</sup>), shall be amended in a following manner:

- 1) in Article 41a (1), after the words “to the detriment of the minor”, a phrase “and in the event of conviction for a wilful crime involving violence, including violence against immediate family member” shall be added;

- 2) Article 67 (3) shall receive the following wording:

"§ 3. By conditional suspension of criminal proceedings, the court shall oblige the perpetrator to repair the damage in part or in total, and may also impose on him or her

duties listed in Article 72 (1) (1-3), (5) or (7a), and moreover, sentence a monies compensation listed in Article 39 (7) and a prohibition to drive, listed in Article 39 (3), for up to 2 years”;

3) Article 72 (1):

a) point 6 shall receive the following wording:

"6) "subject themselves to treatment, in particular rehabilitation or therapy, or participation in corrective and educational programmes,”

b) point 7a shall receive the following wording:

"7a) withdraw from contacting the aggrieved party or other persons in particular manners”,

c) point 7b shall be added, in the following wording:

"7b) leave the place of residence occupied jointly with the victim.”.

**Article 16.** The Act of 12 March 2004 on social assistance (Dz. U. No. 64, item 593 as amended<sup>6)</sup>), shall be amended in a following manner:

1) Article 47:

a) (1) shall receive the following wording:

"1. Crisis intervention shall consist in a set of interdisciplinary measures for persons and families in a crisis. The objective of crisis intervention is to restore mental balance and ability to cope by oneself, and thus to prevent crisis reaction from becoming a chronic psychosocial stress.

b)(3) shall receive the following wording:

"3. Crisis intervention shall include immediate specialised psychological assistance, as well as, depending on the needs, also social or legal guidance, and in justified cases, a shelter for up to 3 months.”;

2) Following Article 87a shall be added after Article 87:

"Article 87a. 1. A tutor employed in a care and education centre accused of committing a violent crime, including domestic violence, shall be by right suspended for the time of proceedings.

2. Director of a care and education centre shall terminate the employment of a tutor who received a definitive sentence for a violent crime.”;

3) Article 97 (1) shall receive the following wording:

"1. Payments for stay in support centres and supervised apartments shall be determined by the running entity in cooperation with the referred person, with respect to the scope of granted services. Payments shall not be required if the income of a single person or a per capita income in the family does not exceed the income criterion.

**Art. 17. The Act shall enter into force 2 days after the date of the publication, with the exception of Article 6 (4) and (5) which shall enter into force on 1 January 2006.**

<sup>1)</sup> Amendments to the aforementioned Act have been published in Dz. U. of 1997, No 128, item 840, of 1999 No 64, item 729 and No 83, item 931, of 2000 No 48, item 548, No. 93, item 1027 and No 116, item 1216, of 2001 No 98, item 1071, of 2003 No. 111, item 1061, No. 121, item 1142, No. 179, item 1750, No. 199, item 1935 and No 228, item 2255, of 2004 No. 25, item 219, No. 69, item 626, No. 93, item 889 and No 243, item 2426 and of 2005 No 86, item 732, No 90, item 757, No. 132, item 1109, No. 163, item 1363 and No 178, item

1479.

- 2) Amendments to the consolidated text of the aforementioned act have been published in Dz. U. of 2009, No. 202, item 1551, No. 219, item 1706 and No 221, item 1738 and of 2010 No 28, item 146, No. 40, item 229 and No 81, item 527.
- 3) Amendments to the consolidated text of the aforementioned act have been published in Dz. U. of 2007, No. 115, item 793 and No 176, item 1238, of 2008 No 227, item 1505, of 2009 No 18, item 97 and No 144, item 1175 and of 2010 No 47, item 278.
- 4) Amendments to the aforementioned Act have been published in Dz. U. of 2004, No 64, item 593, No. 116, item 1203 and No 210, item 2135, of 2005 No. 155, item 1298, No 169, item 1420, No 175, item 1462 and No 249, item 2104, of 2006 No 94, item 651, of 2008 No. 209, item 1316, of 2009 No. 19, item 100, No. 22, item 120 and No 157, item 1241 and of 2010 No 28, item 146.
- 5) Amendments to the aforementioned Act have been published in Dz. U. of 1997, No 128, item 840, of 1999 No 64, item 729 and No 83, item 931, of 2000 No 48, item 548, No. 93, item 1027 and No 116, item 1216, of 2001 No 98, item 1071, of 2003 No. 111, item 1061, No. 121, item 1142, No 179, item 1750, No. 199, item 1935 and No 228, item 2255, of 2004 No. 25, item 219, No. 69, item 626, No. 93, item 889 and No 243, item 2426 and of 2005 No 86, item 732, No 90, item 757, No. 132, item 1109, No. 163, item 1363 and No 178, item 1479.
- 6) Amendments to the aforementioned Act have been published in Dz. U. of 2004, no 99, item 1001 and No 273, item 2703 and of 2005 No 64, item 565, No 94, item 788, No 164, item 1366, No 175, item 1462 and No 179, item 1487.

**Notes:**

- 1) Preamble amended by Article 1 (1) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 2) Article 3 amended by Article 1 (2) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 3) Article 5 amended by Article 1 (2) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 4) Article 6 amended by Article 1 (3) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 5) Article 6a added by Article 1 (4) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 6) Article 7 amended by Article 1 (5) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 7) Article 8 amended by Article 1 (5) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 8) Article 8a added by Article 1 (6) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- Article 9 (2) amended by Article 16 of the Act of 22 January 2010 amending the Act on public benefit activity and volunteering and some other acts (Dz.U.2010.28.146) as of 12 March 2010
- 10) Article 9a added by Article 1 (7) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 11) Article 9b added by Article 1 (7) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 12) Article 9c added by Article 1 (7) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010

- 13) Article 9d added by Article 1 (7) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 14) Article 10 amended by Article 1 (8) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 15) Article 10a added by Article 1 (9) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 16) Article 10b added by Article 1 (9) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 17) Article 10c added by Article 1 (9) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 18) Article 10d added by Article 1 (9) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 19) Article 10e added by Article 1 (9) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 20) Article 10f added by Article 1 (9) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 21) Article 11 amended by Article 1 (10) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 22) Article 11a added by Article 1 (11) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 23) Article 12 amended by Article 1 (12) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 24) Article 12a added by Article 1 (13) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 25) Article 12a (1) amended by Article 221 (1) of the Act of 9 June 2011 on family support and foster care (Dz.U.2011.149.887) as of 1 January 2012 (
- 26) Article 12a (2) amended by Article 221 (1) of the Act of 9 June 2011 on family support and foster care (Dz.U.2011.149.887) as of 1 January 2012 (
- 27) Article 12a (4) amended by Article 221 (2) of the Act of 9 June 2011 on family support and foster care (Dz.U.2011.149.887) as of 1 January 2012 (
- 28) Article 12a (5) amended by Article 221 (2) of the Act of 9 June 2011 on family support and foster care (Dz.U.2011.149.887) as of 1 January 2012 (
- 29) Article 12b added by Article 1 (13) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 30) Article 12c added by Article 1 (13) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 31) Article 12d added by Article 1 (13) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 32) Article 13 repealed by Article 1 (14) of the Act of 10 June 2010 (Dz. U.2010.125.842) amending the Act as of 1 August 2010
- 33) Article 14 repealed by Article 9 of the Act of 5 November 2009 on Amendment to the Act Criminal Code, the Act – Code of Criminal Procedure, the Act – Implementing Criminal Code the Act – Tax Criminal Code and some other Acts (Dz.U.2009.206.1589) as of 8 June 2010