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Summary of the dissertation titled:

***Employee thefts in Polish museums –
legal and forensic issues***

The subject of this dissertation is employee theft in Polish museums and related legal and forensic issues. This topic is part of the broadly understood issue of protecting cultural heritage in Poland. The dissertation was prepared on the border of several sciences: forensic science, criminology, criminal law and cultural heritage law.

The problem of employee theft in museums has been and is quite often mentioned by Polish and foreign researchers, however, it has never been discussed in the form of a separate and comprehensive study. It has always only been mentioned in larger studies when discussing other forms of crime targeting cultural heritage and it usually took the form of discussing examples. Several research hypotheses were adopted in the work, including that there is a relationship between education and knowledge in the field of art, access to collections in museums and the degree of threat. One of the research hypotheses of the work is that the inner thief is the most dangerous perpetrator, especially the educated one.

The author divided the perpetrators into two types: technical and temporary workers and substantive perpetrators. Each group is characterized by a different way of proceeding (*modus operandi*): it chooses a work differently, prepares for committing a crime differently, commits it differently and deals with it differently after the theft. However, what they have in common is a financial motive. The main problem when developing the topic was the problem of hiding these acts by museums and the fact that some perpetrators steal quietly for many years. Their activities are often facilitated by the lack of appropriate inventory and documentation of facilities. Sometimes they also fake it.

The author also attempted to portray an internal thief in a museum based on the achievements of forensics and criminology also attempted to explain the attitude of thieves the

based on the changes that took place in Polish society after World War II, which are still current after 1989.

This work consists of eight chapters and proposals for de lege ferenda legal solutions. The examples described came from other research studies, press reports and cases discovered during archival research in the Archives of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the Institute of National Remembrance. The dissertation also contains the results of social research on society's perception of crime against cultural property. The research was conducted on two groups. The first of them were students of Law and Administration and the second - professionals in the field of monument protection. Their results confirmed the author's research hypotheses.

Juliana Mohilla -Potele
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