



Criminal Sanctions

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.47814/ijssrr.v6i2.1001>

Abstract

By the term criminal law, we mean a branch of the positive legislation of a certain state, therefore, it means a system of legal norms by which it is determined which acts of people are considered criminal acts and what types of punishments or criminal sanctions will be imposed on them, it means criminal law exercises protection against criminality by determining which acts endanger public order. This paper examines why some activities that generate harm to the public are controlled by criminal law and criminal sanctions. The criminal justice system contributes, giving us impressive incarceration rates for greater public safety. The capacity to limit the state's power to punish, which I contend is essential to any effective body of criminal "law". The work provides important details, important definitions in the framework of criminal sanctions either by different jurists as well as researchers of this branch. This paper argues the role that legislators have in determining the sanctions for each criminal offense. For the realization of this paper, descriptive, analytical, exploratory, concretization, and classification methods were used. This paper can serve as a helpful material for lawyers and researchers of this branch.

Keywords: *Criminal Sanction; Penalties, Penal Code; Purpose of Penalty; Main Penalties; Complementary Penalties; Alternative Penalties; Judicial Notice*

1. Introduction

The legislation in force in the center has the criminal law which works based on the definition of criminal offenses and criminal sanctions which have the main role in the prevention of crimes as well as the serving of punishments for those who violate the criminal-legal provisions. Criminal law from primitive times until today has undergone continuous growth, becoming subject to changes based on the morals and values of the time. "E drejta penale është produkt i procesit historik civilizues të shoqërisë njerëzore, e lindur dhe zhvilluar bashkë me shtetin rezultat i punës dhe i përpjekjeve të përbashkëta shekullore të popujve, kombeve dhe shteteve. Si i tillë i nënshtrohet procesit të përpunimit dhe të ndryshimit të saj të vazhdueshëm." (Muçi, 2012). As a fundamental goal, as in those times and today, it has always been to bring justice to individuals who intentionally or unintentionally, either through action or inaction, have caused harm to others and violated the social order. In the past, we know different societies that belong to different periods, in each of these societies we can distinguish changes and

advances in the imposition of sanctions, such as in the feudal society, then in the feudal, serf and capitalist society. “Bashkësia për të ruajtur egzistencën e saj ka qenë e detyruar të reagonte ndaj autorëve të veprave të tilla me ndëshkime të bazuara në të drejtën zakonore. Këto masa, si dëbimi nga bashkësia, hakmarrja ose gjakmarrja dhe shpërblimi i gjakut (composito), zbatoheshin nga vet kolektiviteti (fisi, gjinia, klani).” (Muçi, 2012).

Punishment by the community (society) meant that the deportee's basic rights to life were violated, such as: food, shelter, protection of his life from any external danger. Revenge or blood feud are usually used in cases where individual and family integrity has been affected or violated, when morality has been violated, so the person who caused the damage would suffer that damage to the same extent. While the blood reward meant the reconciliation of the parties with forgiveness. With the advancement and progress of primitive communities “Zakonet u transformuan në lloje denimesh penale dhe morën formën e institutive juridike duke marr fund periudha e mbrojtjes private ndaj veprimtarisë antishoqërore ose siq quhet në literaturën botërore periudha e hakmarrjes private dhe kompozicionit dhe filloj një periudhë re, periudha e reagimit shtetëror public kundër kriminalitetit.” (Muçi, 2012).

As criminal sanctions in these historical periods, the death penalty was used, barbaric punishments were used, such as various physical and mental tortures, beatings with various tools, burning the skin, leaving in cold water, cutting body parts (ear, hand, foot). “Lindja e kapitalizmit u shoqërua me formimin e të drejtës penale të cilit i kanë paraprir idet dhe pikpamjet filozofike dhe juridike përparimtare të kohës, ide që reflektojnë ligjësin.” (Muçi, 2012).

As a matter of great interest in this branch of law, criminal sanctions are taken as a measure to prevent the commission of a criminal offense in the future. Criminal sanctions are punitive measures aimed at the perpetrator of the criminal offense by limiting his basic rights and freedoms, such as deprivation of liberty, financial sanctions, etc. These sanctions are aimed at the protection of each individual and the protection of the entire society without exception from criminality and from any dangerous or harmful phenomenon. “Sanksionet penale janë masa të dhunshme penalo juridike të cilat i shqipton gjykata me procedurën e përcaktuar me ligj ndaj kryesit të veprës penale me qëllim të mbrojtjes së shoqëris dhe individit nga kriminaliteti ndërsa konsistojnë në marrjen apo kufizimin e lirisë dhe të drejtave të caktuara apo në tërheqjen e vërejtjes kryesit se do ti merren apo kufizohen liritë dhe të drejtat nëse sërish kryen vepër penale.” (Salihu, 2012).

This paper contributes to the existing scientific literature, especially in the legal field. Moreover. (Qerimi, Maloku & Maloku, 2022:289)

2. Literature Review

The structure of this paper is based on the use of a literature from books published by different authors, articles and scientific works by different researchers were used, definitions and notions of some prominent jurists, both local and foreign, were taken into consideration. The authors Jasarevic and Maloku (2021a, 2021b) have analyzed the criminological aspect and the criminal procedural aspect of criminality, while in the sociological aspect this negative phenomenon has been analyzed by the authors Shabani and Maloku (2019a, 2019b). Criminality is antisocial behavior that is in conflict with the legal and moral norms of behavior (Maloku, 2021b, 2019: 174), which represents the group of all actions that endanger and/or damage the basic human values (protected by law) . (Maloku, 2021:60). Likewise, the etiological and phenomenological factors that influence the increase in criminality have been analyzed by Maloku. (2015, 2016a, 2016b, 2016c, 2018). “Sanksionet, në ligj dhe në përkufizim ligjor janë dënime ose mjete të tjera të zbatimit të perdorura për të ofruar stimuj për bindje ndaj ligjit ose ndaj rregullave dhe rregulloreve.” (Black, 1990). “Sanksionet penale shqiptohen dhe aplikohen kundër vullnetit të kryesit dhe konsistojnë në marrjen apo kufizimin e disa të drejtave të cilat përndryshe i kanë gëzuar gjerë në momentin e kryerjes së veprës penale. Sanksionet penale që i shqiptohen kryesve të veprave penale më

pak kanë karakter hakmarrës e më tepër shqiptohen më qëllim të përmirësimit.” (Hoxha, 2019). “Ndaj kryesve të veprave penale mund të shqiptohet vetëm ai sanksion penal i cili është parapar me ligj në momentin e kryerjes së veprës penale (nulla poena sine lege). Kjo veçuri e sanksioneve penale, në brendin e saj është sendërtim i parimit të legalitetit dhe ka rëndësi të madhe për sigurinë juridike të qytetarëve dhe duhet ta përjashtojë mundësinë që organet shtetërore, madje as gjyqet, kryesit e veprës penale ti shqiptohet ndonjë sanksion i cili nuk është paraparë me ligj.” (Salihu, 2012).

3. Methodology

Various research methods were used for the realization of this paper. The basis of this work lies in the use of many data or information collected as a result of these methods, during the methodology essential primary information has been gathered which is the result of systematic research and detailed research so that this work is qualitative. A descriptive method was used to describe the basic features of the sanction. Analytical methods, qualitative methods, exploratory methods were used in such a way that the content of the work is as efficient as possible. Interpretation is used as a method to display the opinion of eminent scholars. The method of analysis and synthesis was used among the special scientific methods (Maloku, Qerimi, Maloku, 2022:176). The defined object of research requires the use of different methods and scientific knowledge from many scientific disciplines, in particular, the paper will use theoretical analysis methods, comparative methods and the unity of inductive-deductive methods (Maloku, 2021a:76). As it is theoretical research of a qualitative nature, the qualitative method of document content analysis is mainly applied as one of the methods of data collection. In addition to this method, all the basic analytical-synthetic methods will be used as individual methods and in certain combinations, correlations, and relationships as necessary, as well as the hypothetico-deductive, axiomatic and comparative methods of the group of general scientific methods (Qerimi, Kastrati, Maloku, Gabela and Maloku, 2023:183). It should be pointed out that those methods were chosen that best correspond to the knowledge of the provisions of the research

subject and that penetrate the very core of the research problem. (Maloku, Kastrati, Gabela, Maloku, 2022:141)

4. Results and Discussion

During this part, it will be discussed about: Criminal sanctions, Punishments (definition, elements and characteristics of punishment), Legal basis of punishment, Purpose of punishment, Types of criminal sanctions, Main punishments. In the following, we will talk more specifically about all these topics

4.1. Criminal Sanctions

Criminal sanctions are the main issues of criminal law, in criminal law the measures that are foreseen to be taken by the criminal jurisprudence against the perpetrator of the criminal offense, their purpose should be the protection of individuals and society without exceptions from crimes or criminality such as harmful phenomenon or with a high level of danger. In order to prevent crimes, together with criminal sanctions, other measures should be taken, such as raising the level of education in order to show society's awareness that by disrespecting the law, the freedoms and rights of equality of citizens, we fall up to sanction or punishment, since these rules and laws exist to protect the legal order from any threat. Over time, sanctions have appeared due to a kind of reaction of society towards the perpetrators of the criminal offense that were undertaken for the purpose of protection, since by means of criminal sanctions the perpetrator of the criminal offense is limited to his most important or fundamental rights and freedoms. In some countries, the death penalty is also practiced as a criminal sanction, but this punishment is not practiced in Kosovo, since the death penalty is prohibited even with “Kushtetutën e Kosovës i cili thotë në paragrafin I se: Secili individ gëzon të drejtën për jetën dhe paragrafi II parashikon

se: Dënimi me vdekje është i ndaluar.” (Kushtetuta e Republikës së Kosovës, 2008, p. Neni 25). Some of the biggest and most frequent changes occur in criminal sanctions. “Tendencat e reja në zhvillimin e sanksioneve penale veçmas konsistojnë në këto segmente: në vënien e një raporti të ri të shoqërisë ndaj delikentit që ky të mos trajtohet si armik I shoqërisë, po që me trajtimin adekuat penalo-juridik të kthehet si antarë I barabartë dhe I dobishëm I shoqërisë: në parashikimin e dënimeve alternative, sidomos të disa varianteve të dënimeve me kusht, punën në interesin e përgjithshëm, gjymsëlirinë (semi liberte)” (Salihu, 2012, p. 414). So, the imposition of new sanctions must be adapted to new social conditions and developments in order to be as coherent and acceptable as possible by society. Some of the basic characteristics of criminal sanctions are that society protects the most important values of the individual and society from criminality, another characteristic is that sanctions can only be imposed on people who have committed criminal acts. “Ndaj kryersve të veprave penale mund të shqiptohet vetëm ai sanksion penal i cili është paraparë me ligj në momentin e kryerjes së veprës penale (nulla poena sine lege)”. (Salihu, 2012, p. 416). Sanctions can only be imposed by courts and judges who have the appropriate legal education and experience, that is, only they are qualified to sanction perpetrators of criminal offenses.

4.2. Legal Basis of Punishment

The issue of the legal basis has been decided with the aim of defining those limits that indicate to what extent the state has the right to apply punishments. The question has been raised as to where the state's right to apply violent measures against persons who have committed certain criminal offenses comes from, measures which limit the most important legal benefits to individuals. Different theories have been presented that have shaped different social-economic relations, in these theories we have some characteristics which are divided into four groups: 1. Metaphysical or idealistic theories, 2. Social contract theories, 3. Legal normative theories and 4. Sociological theories. “Teoritë metafizike apo idealiste dënimin e arsyetojnë si manifestim të hakmarrjes së shoqërisë dhe shtetit kundër kryerësit të veprës penale. Dënimi zbatohet në emër të drejtësisë absolute, e cila është shkelur me rastin e kryerjes së veprës penale. Sipas këtyre teorive, shkelja e drejtësisë kërkon rikthimin e saj në gjendjen e mëparshme dhe kjo i jep të drejtë shtetit që të zbatojë dënimin si formë të hakmarrjes”. (Salihu, 2012, p. 426). The state has the right and obligation to apply punishments in order to fulfill the obligations or the imperative for the absolute right. Theories on the social contract according to this theory individuals have given up their original right to personally punish the perpetrator of the criminal offense but have left this right in their hands or entrusted it to the state, the power of the people has been delegated to the state so that it exercises this in the name and for the benefit of the society, the state does not dare to exceed the authorizations from the contract and has no right to misuse the exercise of power. In this theory, persons or individuals have accepted expulsion from the state as punishment in case they commit criminal acts. Normative legal theories - “këto teori nuk e shqyrtojnë çështjen e lindjes së shtetit dhe prej nga buron e drejta e shtetit që të zbatojë dënime ndaj kryersëve të veprave penale, por zgjidhjen e bazës juridike të dënimin e kërkojnë në normat juridike ekzistuese të shtetit të caktuar. Rrjedhimisht sipas këtyre teorive, baza juridike e shtetit që të zbatojë dënime gjendet në vetë systemin juridik”. (Salihu, 2012, p. 427). Of course, with the birth of the state comes the right to protect the state itself and its interests, the state has the right to ask its citizens to respect the legal norms for their own good, from this also comes the right of the state to punish or punish those individuals who do not adhere to legal norms. “Teoritë sociologjike këto teori shprehin zhvillimin bashkëkohor të së drejtës penale. Sipas këtyre teorive, baza juridike e dënimin konsiston në ushtrimin e funksionit shoqëror të së drejtës në përgjithësi dhe të drejtës penale në veçanti.” (Salihu, 2012, p. 428). The safety of citizens and society is a priority.

4.3. Purpose of Punishment

Since ancient times, society has tried to prevent criminality, since then there have been reactions to actions and behaviors that have violated the values and norms of individuals, punishment is the oldest type of criminal sanction, but even today punishment is a sanction basic which is pronounced against the

perpetrators of the criminal offense. In order for a criminal offense to exist, the following elements must also exist: human behavior (action or inaction), social dangerousness, definition of a criminal offense, consequence, causal link between the action (inaction) and the consequence and criminal responsibility, if any of these elements are missing, then it calls into question the existence of the criminal offense, which means that we do not have a criminal offense. “Në të drejtën penale skllavopronare dhe feudale mbizotëronte mendimi se ndëshkimi i autorëve të veprës penale kishte qëllim hakmarrjeje dhe shpagimi”. (Muçi, 2012, p. 258). According to the penal code of the Republic of Kosovo, the goals of punishment are as follows: “1.1. të parandalojë kryesin nga kryerja e veprave penale në të ardhmen dhe të bëjë rehabilitimin e tij; 1.2. të parandalojë personat e tjerë nga kryerja e veprave penale; 1.3. të bëjë kompensimin e viktimave ose të komunitetit për humbjet ose dëmet e shkaktuara nga vepra penale; dhe 1.4. të shprehë gjykimin shoqëror për veprën penale, ngritjen e moralit dhe forcimin e detyrimit për respektimin e ligjit.” (KODI NR. 06/L-074 PENAL I REPUBLIKËS SË KOSOVËS, 2019, p. Neni 38). In order for punishments to be legal (legal) they must be pronounced only in the cases that are provided by law, those types of punishments that aim at individual prevention and general prevention are necessary, otherwise if the courts pronounce that type of punishments that only aim at revenge, then everything that people have fought to achieve based on justice falls down because the punishment itself is the cause of a greater evil than the perpetrator of the criminal act. In these states, arbitrariness and rudeness dominate, and the deformations will be expressed immediately, the arbitrariness, rudeness and deformations from the criminal jurisdiction are contrary to the principle of legality in the criminal law. “Në legjislacionin penal të çdo shteti, ashtu edhe tek ne ekziston dispozita e përgjithshme penale juridike, sipas të cilës lloji dhe lartësia e dënimit përcaktohet sipas intensitetit dhe sasisë së dëmit që kryerësi i veprës penale i’ka shkaktuar individit apo shoqërisë.” (Salihu, 2012, p. 432). Currently, our system of criminal punishment does not offer the possibility of dialogue or communication between the conflicting parties, but leaves the relations between them separated and characterized by the feeling of contradiction or, worse, of hostility between them.

4.4. Types of Criminal Sanctions

Criminal sanctions are coercion measures foreseen by positive legal provisions which are applied to perpetrators of criminal offences. In the 20th century, pluralism of criminal sanctions was inaugurated instead of monism. “Tashmë flitet për ekzistim të këtyre llojeve të sanksioneve penale: dënimet kryesore, dënimet alternative, dënimet plotësuese, masat sigurose, masat edukative, dënimi me kusht dhe vërejtja gjyqesore. Deri në fund të shk.XIX dënimi ka qenë sanksioni penal i vetëm që i është shqiptuar kryesve të veprave penale. Dënimi edhe sot ka mbetur sanksioni kryesor që i shqiptohet kryesve të veprave penale. Në shek.XX si sanksione penale u shfaqen masat edukative dhe masat sigurose, por edhe dënimi me kusht dhe vërejtja gjyqesore.” (Maloku, 2022). The main penalties are imposed on adults who are criminally responsible for the criminal offense. Imprisonment has been applied on a large scale, but imprisonment is not contributing to the reduction of criminality. “Parashikimi i dënimeve dhe masave alternative si substitute, zëvendësim i dënimit me burgim, është një trend progresiv në të drejtën penale bashkëkohore dhe njëherit paraqet reform të rëndësishme në konceptin dhe sistemin e sanksioneve ndëshkuese. Karakteristikë themelore e sistemit bashkëkohor të dënimeve dhe perpektiva e tij është trendi i bifurkacionit – ndarjes në dy drejtime dhe atë: dënimi me burgim për vepra penale më të rënda, dënimet alternative dhe masat alternative, për vepra penale më të lehta”. (Salihu, 2012, p. 450). Complementary punishments are those types of punishments that are not applied independently but are given together with the main punishment, which are presented as a result of the knowledge that the main punishments cannot be the only effective means against the perpetrator of the criminal offense to which you the complementary punishment was pronounced in order to limit some rights which cannot be exercised or cannot be limited by the main and alternative punishments. “Dënimet plotësuese jepen për një kohë të përcaktuar, në mënyrë të përhershme ose me ekzekutimin të mënjëhershëm. Shumica e tyre janë të përkohshme jepen nga gjykata brenda kufijve kohorë të përcaktuara në ligj.” (Muçi, 2012, p. 274). While the educational measure is not a criminal punishment, but in a way limits some rights, it is given in those cases when it is proven that the offense was committed by X person, that is, when he is declared guilty by

the court. Educational measures are practiced with the aim of educating minors in educational institutions, where they will be kept under supervision. While among the criminal sanctions is also the warning of the court “Qëllimi i vërejtjes së gjykatës është që kryerësin e veprës penale, në raste kur vepra penale është më pak e rrezikshme, të mos ndëshkojë nëse nuk është e domosdoshme për mbrojtjen juridike-penale.” (Salihu, 2012, p. 515).

4.5. Principal Penalties

Major penalties are those types of penalties that are imposed as punitive measures that are determined independently. The main penalties are: 1. Life imprisonment, 2. Imprisonment and 3. Fine. The sentence of life imprisonment according to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Kosovo states that “1. Ligji mund të parasheh dënimin me burgim të përjetshëm për veprat më të rënda penale të kryera në rrethana veçanërisht rënduese ose për vepra penale që kanë shkaktuar pasoja shumë të rënda. 2. Ligji nuk mund të parasheh dënimin me burgim të përjetshëm si të vetmin dënim kryesor për një vepër të veçantë penale. 3. Dënimi me burgim të përjetshëm nuk mund t’i shqiptohet personit i cili në kohën e kryerjes së veprës penale nuk i ka mbushur njëzetën (21) vjet ose personit i cili në kohën e kryerjes së veprës penale ka pasur aftësi esencialisht të zvogëluar mendore.” (KODI NR. 06/L-074 PENAL I REPUBLIKËS SË KOSOVËS, 2019, p. Neni 41). Imprisonment is the removal of a person's freedom for a certain period of time by the court within the limits provided by law. Imprisonment means physical isolation but not spiritual isolation of the person, which aims at education and not his degradation. Imprisonment is the heaviest punishment after life imprisonment, which has a punitive and coercive character. “Dënimi me burgim nuk mund të shqiptohet në kohëzgjatje më pak se tridhjetë (30) ditë e as më tepër se njëzet e pesë (25) vjet. Dënimi me burgim shqiptohet në vite dhe në muaj të plotë, e në rastet kur dënimi është deri në gjashtë (6) muaj, dënimi shqiptohet në ditë të plota.” (KODI NR. 06/L-074 PENAL I REPUBLIKËS SË KOSOVËS, 2019, p. Neni 42). For criminal offenses for which the law provides life imprisonment, the court can impose up to thirty-five (35) years. Punishment with a fine is part of the pecuniary penalties, it means the cases when the obligations of the legal relationship are not fulfilled, then as a measure comes the pecuniary sanction, that is, the property measure of the perpetrator of the criminal offense is hit. Punishment with a fine is very appropriate in cases where the criminal offenses are light, the purpose of the penalty is to inform the perpetrator of the criminal offense that he has committed a serious illegal offense and that this action of his carries consequences. In cases where the convicted person refuses to pay the fine or is unable to pay it, then the court makes an agreement with the consent of the convicted person to replace the fine with a work of general benefit, but in case the convicted person does not accept this too, then the court replaces the fine with imprisonment. “Në aktgjykim caktohet afati i pagesës së dënimit me gjobë. Afati nuk mund të jetë më i shkurtër se pesëmbëdhjetë (15) ditë e as më i gjatë se tre (3) muaj, mirëpo në rrethana të arsyeshme gjykata mund të lejojë që dënimi me gjobë të paguhet me këste për një periudhë që nuk tejkalon dy (2) vjet. Aktgjykimi po ashtu duhet të përcaktojë se kur duhet të paguhet këstet dhe duhet të cek se mundësia e pagesës me këste do të revokohet nëse personi i dënuar nuk e paguan këstin me kohë.” (KODI NR. 06/L-074 PENAL I REPUBLIKËS SË KOSOVËS, 2019, p. Neni 43)

Conclusion

This paper examines criminal sanctions as one of the main pillars of criminal law, in this paper a rather voluminous research has been done on criminal sanctions in the Republic of Kosovo. This paper provides important and primary information about sanctions in general, their effects and value to society, their causes and consequences. The conclusions of this paper are the general findings on criminal sanctions according to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Kosovo, The main punishments, alternative punishments, complementary punishments, judicial warning, and educational measures in the Republic of Kosovo. Reaching the end of this topic, it took me a long time to work in the best way on this topic, so the completion of the paper has brought me a good experience on the knowledge of criminal sanctions in

the Republic of Kosovo, but comparing the previous years with today, we have come to the conclusion that we have an awareness of the citizens in our society in the new state of the Republic of Kosovo, and a visible decrease in criminality and the imposition of sentences.

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