SUMMARIES OF THE MATERIALS
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for his Participation in the Competition for the academic Position of Associate Professor at Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" in the Field of: 3. Social, Economic, and Legal Sciences; Professional Domain: 3.6. Law (Theory of Law and State), announced in State Gazette, issue 98/November 19, 2024.

I. A TREATISE OF HABILITATION – A MONOGRAPH

Hanev, Dimitar. Legal Reasoning: concept and theory. Plovdiv: PU "Paisii Hilendarski", 2025. ISBN: 978-619-202-707-0.

Summary

The monograph is dedicated to the topic of legal reasoning, mainly affecting two of its aspects: the conceptual one and the legal-theoretical one. This logic has also determined the structure of the text, which is correspondingly divided into two parts. Methodologically, the approach to the study is legal-philosophical, while the methods used are critical and analytical. Within this framework, factual rather than normative conclusions are aimed.

The main task of the first part is to clarify the concept of reasoning in law. This issue is addressed in four chapters, beginning with a representation of the starting positions, followed by an overview of the methodology and theoretical premises in order to arrive at the analysis of the studied phenomenon in a legal-institutional context. Viewed as such, this thematic line aims to reveal the nature and limitations of legal reasoning as an individual cognitive process, pointing at constructing legal meaning.

The second part also consists of four chapters, tracing the development of contemporary legal theory through the lens of the problem of reasoning in law.

Specifically, the exposition is organized according to the logic of a possible theory of legal reasoning, the general model of which is constructed based on the conclusions of the previous part. This general model has two main characteristics, representing legal reasoning in its two forms of manifestation: theoretical and practical. These two forms have been brought to the forefront in each of the main areas of General Jurisprudence since the 17th century onwards.

II. A BOOK PUBLISHED ON THE BASIS OF A DISSERTATION, DEFENDED AS A PHD THESIS

Hanev, Dimitar. Legal Right and Legal Liberty. Plovdiv: PU "Paisii Hilendarski", 2021. ISBN: 978-619-202-707-0.

Summary

The study is represented through the prism of the classical relationship between right and liberty in the legal order of the democratic societies. By virtue of this logic liberty in law is understood as an individual and legally guaranteed capacity to follow a certain rule of conduct, resulting from a freely exercised choice of legal entities. From this perspective, the concept of legal liberty makes sense only when placed in the broader context of the legal right.

Following this line of thought, the book outlines two thematic centers around which the exposition is structured. On the one hand these include issues related to the concept and realization of the legal rights, and on the other hand, issues concerning the concept and realization of legal liberty. Systematically, in terms of the book's structure, those problems are distributed in four separate chapters.

The first chapter analyzes the concept of legal right from two different perspectives: as a methodological concept and as a dogmatic legal concept. The second chapter focuses on the forms and realization of legal rights. The third and fourth chapters, consequently, are dedicated to the concept and realization of legal liberty.

III. STUDIES PUBLISHED IN NON-REFFERED, PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS, OR PUBLISHED IN EDITED COLLECTIVE VOLUMES

Hanev, Dimitar. System of Forms of Legal Rights. – In: Property relations in law: Development and Perspectives. Plovdiv: PU "Paisii Hilendarski", 2021, pp. 382-417. ISBN: 978-619-202-672-1.

Summary

The study continues my research in the field of the legal rights and It is based on the premise that, from the perspective of its formal structure, the legal right is not a monistic category. This means that in different normative hypotheses the internal potential for its realization can manifest itself in various forms. The central question of this paper is to identify these forms, determine how they should be classified, and explore whether they can be systematized into a unified and comprehensive framework that fully describes the overall structure of the legal right. To clarify this issue, the study also seeks to shed light on several other problem areas related to this legal-theoretical concept.

First, building on my previous work, I further develop and refine the distinction between *content* and *form* of rights. On this a basis, I argue that content pertains to the goods to which rights provide access, while form refers to the *rule of conduct*, by which legal subjects "consume" these goods. Subsequently, the concept of the rule of conduct is analyzed within the framework of the idea of the *legal relation*, understood as a normative prototype of possible deontic interdependencies between the legal entities.

As a final outcome, the study introduces a distinction between the logical and doctrinal systems of the forms of subjective right, demonstrating that these two frameworks do not necessarily coincide. The proposed doctrinal system of subjective right includes three fundamental forms: *legal claim, legal authority, and legal liberty.*

IV. ARTICLES AND REPORTS PUBLISHED IN NON-REFFERED, PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS, OR PUBLISHED IN EDITED COLLECTIVE VOLUMES

Hanev, Dimitar. The Idea of Soft Law and the Concept of Validity in Legal Reasoning. – In: Soft Law and Contemporary Law. Sofia: Sibi, 2017, pp. 36-51.

Summary

The article explores the issue of validity from the perspective of legal reasoning through the lens of the Soft Law Doctrine, which holds prominence in the field of international relations. Chronologically, this publication can be considered a prototype of my habilitation work.

Substantively, the central question of the study is whether legal norms can exist without possessing legal validity. In addressing this question, the article outlines the key parameters of the concept of legal reasoning, from which the idea of validity is also explained. In this context, validity is seen not as an inherent characteristic of legal norms, but as a cognitive construct that requires a binary mode of rational thinking (valid–invalid).

Further, the article defends the thesis that validity manifests itself as part of both the theoretical and practical rationality, which, within the framework of legal discourse, creates its corresponding projection in law. By distinguishing between these two aspects, the paper argues that the model of reasoning about validity of legal rules solely through formal logic and conceptual definitions is an unrealistic.

Plovdiv, **Prepared by:**

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