

SUMMARY

A large proportion of elderly people have weaker physical strength and intellectual abilities. This is due to the body's natural aging process. These people are more vulnerable to various types of threats. Seniors are therefore a social group that requires special protection and support. These needs are of particular importance in the context of the ongoing aging of the society.

Supporting people from vulnerable groups is one of the fundamental tasks of human rights. Helping seniors also results from the principle of intergenerational solidarity. The legal system is of great importance for the protection of human rights, because legal acts provide the possibility to claim one's rights.

The content of legal provisions in Poland is influenced by the legal acts of the global system for the protection of human rights of the United Nations and the regional systems for the protection of human rights, i.e. the Council of Europe and the European Union in Europe.

The highest legal act in the country, i.e. the constitution, contains references to seniors as a group that requires special support. However, it is done to a small extent. In selected provisions of civil and criminal law, there are few direct references to seniors as a group in need of special protection. This is particularly important in the provisions on donation or life annuity contracts, which are often the basis for providing care in old age in exchange for transferring the ownership of the house / flat. Quite a few legal provisions addressed to seniors are also found in the provisions of family law, administrative proceedings, and consumer protection.

There are two main forms of caring for seniors. It is care provided by the senior family and provided by institutions.

The examined court files present various problems of seniors, which may result, inter alia, from insufficient legal provisions establishing special protection for seniors. In a survey conducted among seniors, the majority of respondents expressed the opinion that older people have greater difficulties in claiming their rights than other people.

The conducted analyzes and research show the need to adopt new legal provisions aimed at strengthening the protection of seniors.