

# SASMA Portal 2010

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## Security environment in Poland - SASMA TEAM



I decided to air my view on ‘security world’ (quite specific service market) after a few years of observations on this branch of our economic life. My considerations are an effect of a long-term work in ‘public’ security (former Government Protection Bureau officer) and, after retiring, considerable experience stemming from work which aim is to increase personal security of owners of large companies.

A direct factor that has the biggest influence on my series of articles on security, contractors and clients is a recent article in one of the opinion-forming weekly (‘Polityka’, No 47, 20 November 2010). An author, Juliusz Ćwieluch, in his column, titled ‘Bodyguard in Polish’, writes, among others, that ‘...the branch of private security of VIPs evolved from a gorilla to a bodyguard. Not all of them evolved. Frankly speaking, some VIPs did not either...’. It is hard to argue with that. I would like to make a deeper analysis of security environment and make a vivisection of behaviour of people who decide to hire personal security by writing a series of articles on SASMA portal.

In this series I will try to prove a thesis that apart from physical agility (the number of kilograms squeezed in a gym, an ability to ‘punch’, speed of accurate shooting) emotional and psychological potential is also very important. Basing on this, I will try to make my readers answer a question what was first ‘an egg or a hen’. In other words, what is more important a physical or psychological-motivational training. I will attempt also to pinpoint common mistakes made by businessmen hiring personal security. I will present good and bad sides of security functioning from the perspective of a ‘donor’ and a ‘recipient’. I will not show ready recipe for an ideal interpersonal relations between VIP and security since, from my own and my colleagues experience, I know that such ideal relations do not exist. All depends on character features of people who are to COOPERATE.

One of aims of this series is making people aware of a need to introduce psychological and motivational training in the process of training of personal security members.

What modern personal security is? Resultant of times we live in, necessary evil or a whim of rich people? I am of the opinion that it contains all of that but the reasons why such a group is formed are diverse. I will not consider issues connected with GPB since necessity of its existence is undeniable and legitimate (Law on GPB). I will focus on people who afford to hire personal security.

People from the list ‘The 100 richest ...’ secure minimum safety & security and maximum comfort by hiring personal security. Repeatedly, by hiring security group they buy ‘a device to walk a dog’, ‘a device to rake leaves and clear property of snow’ and ‘a self-propelled shopping trolley’. This irony is a result observations and conversations with people from the, so called, security branch. The situation is like that because constantly not only rich people but also the whole society use two stereotypes of bodyguards:

- **A man with a beer belly wearing a uniform with a ‘Security’ caption, sandals and socks who wanders around a shopping mall or a district parking lot**
- **A beefcake without a neck who pretends to be a bodyguard**

On the other hand, these bodyguards working for rich people do not want to or cannot end with these stereotypes connected with this branch. They do not want to – maybe they lack knowledge and a method to overcome them – they fear for losing their job.

If managers from the, so called, security branch read references connected with psychology and management more often they would be able to change an image of a bodyguard. Of course, we must be aware that this would be a very difficult and long process but absolutely possible. Both sides of the security branch, namely ‘donors’ and ‘recipients’, must want it. The work on personality, personal development and socialisation of personal security agents is absolutely crucial complementary element of physical and tactics training.

In a split of a second, a question arises: ‘What is it for?’. For example, for increasing overall security status since not all of us are aware or do not want to know how many ill-trained and

armed bodyguards/security guards having emotional problems walk around Polish towns every day.

## **SASMA TEAM**

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