

## **Abstract**

This diploma thesis presents an examination of the phenomenon of loyalty in the environment of state security agencies. It seeks to provide ethical orientation in the conflict between loyalty and conscience, with particular regard to the reporting of wrongdoings committed in the exercise of rights and duties by these organs of state power from within. Primarily through the application of empirical-deductive methodology, the environment of security forces, especially intelligence services, is presented as a mental subculture with its own ethos of internal functioning, including loyalty to this professional fraternity. Two case studies are devoted to specific situations where misconduct was reported to have occurred in the exercise of the services' competencies. The findings of these case studies are interpreted in the context of the opinion of a long-standing intelligence professional on the problem of whistleblowing in the environment of special state agencies. Individuals' loyalty to professional fraternities within security forces is further examined through perspectives on "friendship" from C.S. Lewis, Aristotle, and Max Scheler. Simultaneously, emphasis is placed on the exogenous and endogenous influences that fundamentally accompany an individual's decision-making process in their conflict between loyalty to a professional fraternity and adherence to normative law.