

THE LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE VIOLATION OF E-WASTE MANAGEMENT IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

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Abstract

Purpose – the field of electrical and electronic equipment waste management has become very relevant over the last decade. The amount of these type of waste is still increasing not only in Lithuania, but in other countries (developed and developing) as well. The improvement of regulation of legal responsibility of the violations of e-waste management in contemporary society is the one way to try to deal with the problem. In the age of technological progress, computing, the contemporary society is changing, therefore it became more cautious, the intellectual activity is evolving, so the legal legislation and legal rules have to be created and implicated taking into account the inevitable change of the thinking and operating of the society. The purpose of this article is to reveal the legal regulation of responsibility for the violation of e-waste management in Lithuania and by analyzing and comparing legal regulations and court practices to provide the solution for improvement of effectiveness and efficiency in this area.

Design/methodology/approach – the paper is based on qualitative document analysis and comparative analysis method by comparing different legislation and its implications as well as court decisions. Scientific literature analysis, legal literature content analysis techniques are used to systematically evaluate legal documents. Qualitative data comparative and summarization methods, will be used during the research to better understand the challenges of the issue.

Finding – the effectiveness of legal responsibility mechanism depends on improvement of legal legislation taking into account the change and evolvement of contemporary society in this age of technology, information and consumption.

Research limitations/implications – to reveal the dysfunctions of legal responsibility and legal legislation in the field of e-waste management, it is necessary to investigate and compare the nature of the offences and how often they are made, what are the measures obtain them and to obviate them in the future, thus The Environmental Protection Agency, The Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania and The

Environmental Protection Department under the Ministry of Environment as well as the internet and Official Statistic Portal does not provide this information, so available are only those cases, which are appealed in the court.

Practical implications – the comparative analysis provides a background on further discussions concerning legal responsibility for violation of e-waste management legislation.

Originality/Value – not many scientific research was made in the field of analysis of electrical and electronic equipment management. There is still a lack of academic insights into the issues of effectiveness of responsibility mechanism for the offences of WEEE. The paper provides insights into the liability and responsibility of such waste use, disposal, production, distribution and selling and points out the solutions for legal regulation improvement in this area will be provided.

Keywords: e-waste management, legal responsibility, contemporary society.

Research type: general review.