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Law of interpretation

The research had two underlying objectives. The first, and most important one, was to determine what the status of interpretive law is and whether it is uniform or different in different legal cultures. The second objective was to establish whether it is possible and legitimate to codify interpretive law and create hierarchies of interpretive tools used in the process of interpretation of law. The research was comparative in nature; it involved a comparison of the Polish, Spanish and common law system. Research concerning Poland and Spain involved analysis of case-law, analysis of specialist literature of these two countries devoted to interpretation and different interpretive tools, and analysis of pieces of legislation containing interpretive guidelines (e.g. *Directrices de la técnica normativa*). The part of the research devoted to common law countries had a similar scope; however, instead of a direct analysis of case-law, I referred to earlier research. Considering the possible status of the law of interpretation and proposals on the content of the codified law of interpretation, I have also analysed the legal provisions of Hungary, Italy and Latin American countries.

The work is divided into three chapters. In the first one, I analyse the sources in which interpretative directives are formulated. These are: laws established by the legislator, case-law and literature. In each of these sources, guidelines for interpreting the law may be formulated in different ways. In the second chapter, I referred to the relationship between interpretative directives and the law, the issue of the validity of interpretative directives and the scope of application of interpretative directives. The second chapter also deals with incorrect and correct interpretation. In the third chapter, I analysed the reasons for creating regulations on interpretation of the law and the problems associated with statutory regulation of interpretation of the law, including the issue of the constitutionality of interpretative regulations. Next, I presented comments on the possible content and form of the law of interpretation.