



Miklos Zrinyi National Defence University
PhD Institution in Military Technology

Györgyi Vásárhelyi:

**Comparison of controlling process between drug precursors and
chemical warfare precursors**

PhD dissertation
Author's exposition

Supervisor:

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Actuality and importance of my work

The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961) is the international treaty against illicit manufacture and trafficking of narcotic drugs. This treaty was supplemented by the Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971) controlling psychoactive chemicals. Despite of implementation of 1961 and 1971 conventions the abuse and illicit traffic of drugs were spreading all over the world. In response of these new trends United Nations have complemented existing conventions by the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988). (The Drug-Precursor Convention). This convention contains measures preventing diversion of precursors (chemicals frequently used in illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs) from licit trade to illicit manufacture of drugs and psychotropic substances.

(The 1961, 1971 and 1988 Conventions are the Narcotic Conventions)

The international multilateral agreement responsible for banning use and development of chemical warfare agents is The Convention of the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons (1997). (The Chemical Weapons Convention).

The administrative and executive organs of the above mentioned conventions are needed to face new challenges caused by changing international secure and illegal activity of the organized crime. The deficiencies and problems connecting the implementation process of the Narcotic Conventions are drafting in UN Political Declaration, in European and national drug policies, of the Chemical Weapons Convention – in issues of review conferences. Solving problems of implementation review and complement lists of controlled drugs should be the most important tasks for the executive organizations of the conventions, since phenomena diversion of precursors, illicit manufacturing of drugs and chemical warfare agents are closely correlated to international organized crime and terrorism.

Aims to be reached in my research work

1. Examination the Narcotic Conventions from points of view of legal regulation, implementation process and organization structure.
2. Analysing the structure and function of Hungarian national authorities responsible for drug and drug- precursor control. Offering proposals for arising problems.
3. Examination the structure, operation, effectiveness the implementation process of the Chemical Weapons Convention. Working out recommendations for more effective function of the convention.
4. Exposition to the regulation problem of chemicals to be verified by Chemical Weapons Convention but they are uncontrolled yet. (Incapacitating agents). Showing connection between the Narcotic Conventions and the Chemical Weapon Convention regarding monitoring mechanism of these chemicals. Drawing up of a new international regulation system of incapacitating agents.
5. Introduction of the Hungarian verification system of chemical warfare-precursors, exploring the weakness points in actually practice. Making proposals of more effective operation of the controlling system.
6. Comparison of controlling process between Narcotic Conventions and Chemical Weapons Convention focusing on strong points of verification systems, examining adaptability of these elements in the other system.

Limitations of my work

Examining the system of drug precursors it became clear, that the Drug Precursor Convention can be interpreted correctly only together with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs and Convention on Psychotropic Substances.

I dealt only with a small part of the enormous drug policy issue: showing content of European drug strategies from 2000 till 2012 and the Hungarian one. My aim was to present the place of drug-precursor control in the drug policy system.

I did not intend to explore demand and the illegal side of supply in drug strategies.

Making a comparison between the drug-precursor and chemical weapon precursor controlling systems the point was on the common regulation elements of systems.

Exploration of the regarding literatures and legal measures was ended by 1, August 2008.

Method of my research

I have chosen the analysis of the regarding literature, the reveal of the existing problems, the synthesis of the facts and developing new answers and solutions for the problems as my research method.

Short description of my research work

My dissertation can be divided into three parts. In the first part I examined legal background, operation and the structure of the Narcotic Conventions.

In the second part I investigated the Chemical Weapon Convention from points of view of legal regulation, of work of its administrative organ and of realization of setting aims by the Convention.

In the third part of my work I have made a comparison between the drug-precursor and chemical warfare-precursor controlling systems determining the weak and strong points of the systems.

Summarizing the data and facts explored in my work, I made proposals of solving problems and of correcting the efficacy of the systems.

In the first chapter of my dissertation I examined the definitions of drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors from points of view of their pharmacological effect and of their legal descriptions in Conventions. I showed the historical background and the causes led to the institution of the Narcotic Conventions.

Then I presented the contents of the Conventions and their administrative structure of the international level (reviewing the INCB-International Narcotic Control Board).

Next I dealt with the present regulation of drug precursors on the European Union in detail. In this part I introduced the main characteristics of the European and Hungarian drug strategies as to show the place of the drug-precursor's control in the drug policy.

In the third step I studied our national drug, psychotropic substances and precursor's regulation and its administrative and executive organs.

Finally a summarized my experiences acquired during my work in the pharmaceutical industry as a narcotic officer, and determined the weak points of the national controlling mechanism of drug precursors. I made proposals to be more effective the operation of the system.

In the second chapter of my work I studied the Chemical Weapon Convention. First I examined the definitions of elements of the Convention as “chemical warfare”, “toxic chemicals”, “precursors and key precursors”.

Thereafter I wrote a few words about the use of chemical warfare in the world history and about the process how was established the Chemical Weapon Convention.

I dealt carefully with aims set by the Convention, with its executive structure and tasks of different executive organs.

I showed the different categories of controlled toxic chemicals and their precursors in charts. Then I made known the first and second Review Conferences of the Convention held in every fifth year since the Convention entered into force.

The Review Conferences should be solved problems caused by development of science and technology and deficiencies connected with the implementation of Convention aims.

Next I analyzed the operation of the controlling system and revealed insufficiencies of the system.

In the second part of the chapter I showed the national controlling system of the Convention examining the existing legal rules and measures and also the operation, the structure of the administrative organs. I made recommendations for solving of reveal problems.

In the third chapter of my work I compared the controlling mechanism of the Drug-Precursor Convention with one of the Chemical Weapon Convention on the basis of the results revealed in previous chapters.

In my work I concentrated on common elements of the Convention regulation processes regarding the similar controlling points of view of listed drug-, and chemical agent precursors, the administrative structure of the implementation and tasks of the administrative organs.

In the end of the chapter I determined the strong points of the controlling mechanisms and suggested to transfer these strengths to the other controlling system.

Summarized Conclusions

As a result of my examination connecting with the Conventions it became clear that their implementation processes are far to perfect. They have a lot of insufficiency and problems. To make better their operation I made the conclusions:

1. In connection with the inadequate operation of the Narcotic Conventions:

- Reporting discipline: States parties should submit adequate annually reports, with correct data to INCB in time.
- Monitoring of new potential dangerous substances: the lists of controlled drugs and precursors should maintain up-to-date to extend them with new compounds.
- Controlling system: to be built and strengthened the regional controlling systems as to become more homogeneous and effective the verified processes of states.

2. In connection with national regulation of drug-precursors:

The existing legal background is too complicated consisting of many different rules. It should be ruling a new unified rule regulating on all necessary proceedings and authorities connecting with precursors, and on change of information between authorities.

3. In connection with the inadequate function of the Chemical Weapon Convention:

- National implementation: the States Parties should organize their national system of verification and national authority and they should submit the annual declarations with correct data to OPCW (the Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons) in time.
- Monitoring process of new potential toxic compounds: proceedings regarding the monitoring system of new potential dangerous substances and extending process of the controlled lists are not carefully regulated.
- Verification system: regarding the numerous declared sites manufacturing controlled chemical compounds (DOCs, PSFs) in big quantities, inspectors should verify these establishments in an increased degree in the near future.

4. The Chemical Weapon Convention - issue of incapacitating agents:

Examining the definitions of toxic substances I found that incapacitating agents are belong to the toxic chemicals, therefore to the chemical weapons too, so these substances to be controlled under the Chemical Weapon Convention.

The Review Conferences had to solve this problem but they were closed without any result. I examined action of known incapacitating agents and reached the conclusion that these compounds act human central nervous system, as analgesics, drugs, sedato- hypnotics, or stimulants, hallucinogens, therefore they should be controlled also under Narcotic Conventions.

In first step the OPCW should define the group of incapacitating agents, work out characteristics of these compounds and detailed regulation on them.

5. In connection with national regulation of chemical agents' precursors:

The national regulation needs a legal framework involving all proceedings needed for the total life cycle of the compound as manufacturing, use, export, import, transit, destroying and eliminating processes.

6. In connection with comparison of the controlling processes between the Drug-Precursor and Chemical Weapon Conventions:

Determining the weak and strong points of the processes and adapting the strong point of one system in the other system their efficacy can be better.

Recommendations

1. To simplify the Hungarian verification process of drugs, and psychotropic substances and to make their operation more effective the existing control system should undergo a structural change. The existing national authority responsible for monitoring of drugs and psychotropic substances should build in the structure of National Institute of Pharmacy responsible for verification of human medicines as to create a harmonious, well operating monitoring system.

2. To solve the regulation deficiency of incapacitating agents I recommend establishing a new monitoring organization responsible for incapacitating agents and their precursors. The Committee of Human Central Nervous System Compounds member of it should be elected by INCB and OPCW.
3. The institution of national implementation of the incapacitating agents should be established by cooperation of authorities responsible for monitoring of drug-, and chemical warfare precursors.
4. Regarding the further research direction of my study I intend to make a comparison of verification mechanisms between the Chemical Weapon Convention and REACH (Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals) introduced in the European Union in 2007.

My scientific results

1. Analyzing the aims and definitions of the Chemical Weapon Convention I have proved that incapacitating agents should be controlled by the Chemical Weapon Convention.
2. Studying the action of incapacitating agents I have revealed that these compounds should be monitoring by the Narcotic Conventions on the basis of their action on the human nervous system, but they should be controlled by the Chemical Weapon Convention in cases of their enforcement use.
3. To solve the regulation deficiency of incapacitating agents and their precursors I have developed a new monitoring mechanism functioning by cooperation of administrative and executive organs of the Narcotic and the Chemical Conventions.
4. I have developed the national monitoring system of incapacitating agents and their precursors taking into consideration the same respects as in the international mechanism.

Possible practical application of my results

I recommend the following possible use of my work:

1. To help for the work of Hungarian legislative organs (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Economy) regarding the regulation of drugs, psychotropic substances, chemical warfare and their precursors.
2. To help for the work of Hungarian national authorities responsible for control of drugs, psychotropic substances, chemical warfare and their precursors.
3. To help for the education of the Defence Administration Department in Miklos Zrinyi National Defence University.
4. To help for developing the regulation system of the incapacitating agents by the Chemical Weapon Convention and for creating a cooperation between INCB and OPCW regarding this issue.

List of my publications

1. A. Sándor, Gy. Vásárhelyi: Impacts of major accidents for the environment, AARMS. 5.1. pp. 115-124. April, 2006.
2. Z. Ruichen, Gy. Vásárhelyi: Environmental challenges in China, AARMS 5.1.pp.83- 90. April, 2006.
3. I. Bukovics, Gy. Vásárhelyi: Normative, legal and economic considerations in the field of security, AARMS. 5. 2 .pp. 177-184. May, 2006.
4. Gy. Vásárhelyi: The role of the OPCW in the non-proliferation of chemical warfare agents, AARMS. 5. 2.pp.185-198. May, 2006.
5. Gy. Vásárhelyi, L. Földi: History of Russia's chemical weapons, AARMS. 6. 1.pp.135-146. April, 2007.
6. Gy. Vásárhelyi, L. Földi: Regulation on drug precursors in the European Union, AARMS. 6. 1.pp. 147-158. April, 2007.
7. Gy. Vásárhelyi, L. Halász: The role of the Chemical Weapon Convention in banning of the proliferation process, Hadmérnök 2. I. p. 4. March, 2007. – online edition
http://www.zmne.hu/hadmernok/archivum/2007/1/2007_1_halasz.html
8. Gy. Vásárhelyi, L. Földi: Destroying technologies of the chemical warfare, Hadmérnök 2, 4 .p.46. December, 2007. – online edition
http://www.zmne.hu/hadmernok/archivum/2007/4/2007_4_vasarhelyi.htm
9. L Halász, Gy. Vásárhelyi, O. Vorster.: Rheological and physical equation of state, the use the free volume theory
European-African Meeting of Polymer Processing Society, Pretoria, 9-13 Oct, 2006 – published on CD 9, October 2006.
10. L. Halász, Á. Vincze, O. Vorster., Gy. Vásárhelyi: Determining molecular mass distribution of polymers from dynamic mechanical data by regularization using general singular value decomposition technique
European-African Meeting of Polymer Processing Society, Pretoria, 9-13 Oct, 2006 - published on CD 9, October 2006.

Curriculum Vitae

Work/ Experience

Dec.2007- Pharmacist in the Pharmacy called Angyal in Budapest.

2007 - Quality Assurance Manager at Kéri Pharma Generics Ltd.

Responsible for: ensuring the appropriate storage conditions for medicines according GMP rules, releasing of finished products for the market,

Conducting audits at partner companies concerning their quality assurance systems.

2003 -2007 Narcotic officer in Chinoin Ltd./ Sanofi-Aventis Group/

Tasks: monitoring drugs, psychotrop substances and precursors produced, or imported by the company

Making annual statistics on the controlled substances for the National Authorities.

Coordinating and managing the narcotic control system of the company.

2002-2003 Deputy manager of the pharmacy called Ferencvárosi Gyógyszertár in Budapest

1997-2002 Manager of the pharmacy called Szentháromság Gyógyszertár in Dunaújváros

Responsible for work in the pharmacy, providing secure and adequate pharmaceutical products for patients.

1991-1997 Production manager in Richter Gedeon Chemical Works Ltd in the first year /participating in the production of injections and tablets /.

Executive-pharmacist in the export department: keeping connections with foreign partners, and managing production, quality control, packaging etc.for export quantities of contraceptive pills.

Studies/Occupation

2006-2008 Preparing PhD dissertation at PhD Institution of Military Technology of Miklós Zrínyi National Defense University.

Participating in the individual programme of the part-time education.

1998. Specialized in Management of Pharmacy

1991-1994. Foreign Trade College, Budapest – BSc in Economy

1986-1991 Semmelweis Medical University, Budapest – MSc in Pharmacy

Scientific work

During the training period in PhD Institute (2006-2008)- 6 publications in English, 2 ones in Hungarian languages and 2 ones on CD were printed.

Since 2000 year- membership in Hungarian Pharmaceutical Scientific Society.

Languages

English at advanced level

Russian at advanced level

10, November 2008.

Györgyi Vásárhelyi

