

THE CRIMINAL ACT OF VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR AT SPORTS EVENT OR AT PUBLIC GATHERING

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Summary: The Criminal Act of Violent behaviour at sports event or at public gathering is regulated under article 344a of Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia. It includes several different forms of illegal behaviour. Legal norm prescribing that criminal act has been amended frequently in the period 2003–2009 and the most of amendments were analyzed and clarified within this paper. Author explained that Serbian regulations pose a very wide scope of provisions aimed at curbing the occurrence of spectator violence at their sports stadiums and facilities. The conclusion was drawn that all of Serbian laws in that field were drafted and enacted to satisfy the exigencies of the Council of Europe Convention on Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events and in Particular at Football Matches. Besides that, article 344a of Serbian Criminal Code was compared with relevant articles prescribing similar criminal act in Italy and England and the conclusion was drawn that Serbian legislative practice is in line with the best European practices in that field. The problem of inefficient application of Serbian laws and regulations was also mentioned within this text. Some proposals for solution of those problems were formulated and proposed.