



MUNICIPAL GUARD OF GDAŃSK

ILLEGAL STREET TRADING

Definitions

- "Street Trading" means, the sale and exposing or offering for sale any article (including a living thing) in a street
- "Street" includes any road, footway, beach, or other area to which the public have access without payment
- „Illegal Street Trading” means seling, exposing, offering for sale the goods without the appropriate licence or in an undesignated area

Every attractive for the tourists city in Poland has a problem with illegal street trading



The specificity of illegal street trading

- increase during the summer time
- goods related to a specific event (festivals, holidays, Christmas time, sport events)
- subject of trade: local souvenirs, gadgets, toys, handicrafts, household items
- goods of dubious quality
- no possibility of returning purchased item and regain money
- makes unsightly image of city

Negative impact of street trading

- street traders flout environmental and pedestrian walkway regulations
- street trading makes unfair competition to legitimate traders and businesses
- substantial risk of nuisance to the public from noise or misbehaviour, particularly in residential areas

Places where illegal street trading exists

- places mostly visited by tourists
- historical part of the city (Main City)
- beaches
- city markets
- residential areas
- railway stations

Law

- In Poland street trading is regulated under the Petty Offences' Code (Article 99)
- Under that legislation, the Local Authorities has power to regulate street trading by requiring persons selling or offering to sell goods and services in a public place to hold a licence

Managing illegal street trading

- Local Authorities have a right to confiscate the goods from illegal street traders
- Articles recovery can be done only after receiving payment of fine



Actions taken by Municipal Guard of Gdansk

- interventions
(3236 in 2010)
- assistance during
confiscation of goods
- verbal warning
- patrols



According to the binding Law Municipal
Guard in Poland has not powers to fine
street traders

Most common offences committed by illegal street traders

- Lack of license for running business
- Trading on the public highway or other public places without Council Street Trading Permission
- Lack of visibility of price labels for articles
- Lack of scales legalization
- Devastation of green areas by traders

Municipal Guard of Gdansk cooperation against illegal street trade

- Public Roads and Green Areas City Agency
- City Hall Commerce Departement
- Gdansk Municipal Real Estate Mangement
- Division of Emergency Management & Civil Protection
- Office of Weights & Measures
- Office of Fiscal Control
- The State Trade Inspection

CCTV



Summary

Following factors should be considered when tackling illegal street trading

- public safety
- public order
- needs of the area / character of the area
- local environment (street surfaces, power supply, supply chain, packaging, waste disposal and waste created by customers)
- food traders (they must hold a current Food Hygiene Certificate)
- importance of licensed businesses to the local economy (the legitimate businesses should not have to suffer diminished trade due to the competition from illegal street traders)

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION