

**KATARZYNA BIELECKA, KLAUDIA BRUDŁO**

---

## **Lawyers secrecy in the context of the Act on the Protection of Personal Data**

### **SUMMARY**

The authors undertake to provide the characteristics of legal professional privilege, both based on the specific rules of professional ethics, as well as the Personal Data Protection Act. The question raised is whether the protection of personal data is a component of constitutional right to privacy as personal interests. The problematic issue becomes a collision of ethical standards with the statutory ones, and the possibility to disable the latter. At the same time the question of limiting control over these personal data which are covered by legal privilege is considered. Moreover, the issue of criminal and civil liability for unlawful processing of personal data, as well as disciplinary liability for the proceedings contrary to the principles of professional ethics is raised. The authors recall the standpoint of doctrine and jurisprudence trying to find a compromise between the extreme concepts.

**KEYWORDS:** legal professional privilege, protection of personal data, case files