

Mirosław H. Koziński

PLACE OF REFUGE

The institution of the Place of Refuge (POR) is relatively unknown. According to the definition of the International Maritime Organization, it means “the place where a ship in need of assistance can perform the activities to stabilize its condition and reduce the navigational danger in order to protect human life and the environment”.

The article discusses the references to the POR in international law, as well as the attempts to regulate this institution in international, EU and national laws. The changes in maritime law, which include replacing the Maritime Safety Act of 2000 by the new act of 2011, as well as changes in EU law will probably force fuller and better national regulation of the POR. The Author quite skeptically assesses the chances to adopt the uniform and universal regulation of the POR, since this institution significantly affects the interests of coastal States.