Pathologies are considered to be one of the cell elements of culture-civilization life. This phenomenon has been known since the beginning of the formation of organizational structures of humans, including social and political ones. High esteem should be taken to refer to the essence of revealing the scale of pathological phenomena in contemporary international realities. It is noted that the various entities that generate international order undertake actions to reduce and eliminate them. This is an extremely difficult cognitive challenge, due to the fact that violence is often regarded as the way of achieving objectives, as well as that it is very strongly associated with legitimate state structures.

The present study aims to determine the effect of the pathological risk on the development of various forms of crime going beyond the boundaries of individual states. It is pointed out that crime has become a transnational phenomenon, which influences the various spheres of public life, particularly in economic and socio-political aspects. The analysis pays attention to pathological behaviours such as increasing the involvement of mafia structures in the sphere of economic relations, strengthening the role of terrorists’ activities, which include sea piracy, tortures, trafficking in human organs and the illegal arms trade. Pathological behavior is not conditioned by the level of civilization of a country, its economic position and the functioning of democratic mechanisms. A high level of civilization does not guarantee any freedom from pathological states.

The existence of anomalies is rather the result of increased linkages between the actors in international relations. The expansion of the areas of cooperation, as well as the gap between the highly developed countries and countries facing economic and political crises have made the issue of pathology become an international problem. Its essence is an estimation of the scale of illegal shady businesses, since most of them are secret in nature. Attention is also drawn to the relations of criminal organizations with corrupt government officials, who take actions to disguise illegal activities. This leads to the growth of corruption in the sphere of power, and to the exertion of pressure on those holding important positions.
One can note that it is essential for the processes of overcoming pathology in the international arena to make mentioned phenomena concrete and to reach their causes.

It is formulated, in the form of hypotheses, that, firstly, the phenomena and processes of international pathology are reflected in the field of culture and civilization, and thus determine the face of contemporary international relations, secondly – the international system over the centuries has created a lot of legal solutions (conventions and declarations) to counteract forms of human rights violations, to which one can include analyzed pathological phenomena. Inhumane practices were fought against on the international stage after the experience of two world wars and current acts of terrorism. However, the legal provisions are not sufficient for an effective fight against illegal practices at a time when they are not accompanied by effective enforcement mechanisms. It is necessary to formulate specific actions under international law that would allow the verification of compliance with obligations by individual states; and thirdly – in eliminating pathological behavior in the international arena, it is essential to strengthen cooperation between countries and international institutions involved in the safety and protection of human rights. Each state should establish an internal system of regulation that is consistent with international mechanisms. The interaction of the two systems can solve the problem of international pathology (p. 10).

The present study sought to answer the question – to what extent pathologies of modern civilization affect these spheres: political, economic and above all – legal in the culturally diversified world.

The lecture is divided into 7 chapters, entitled in turn: I. Essence, generating and stimulating powers of pathologies, II. Infiltration of the mafia into the legal structures of business, III. Terrorism as a concept of political reality, IV. Maritime piracy, V. Tortures and the prohibition of their use on the international stage, VI. Trafficking inhuman organs within the world, VII. International Environment against the arms trade.

Explaining the phenomenon of pathology indicates that its source, which is in all environments, is an unwanted process. It dates back to the time of the development of relations between entities, both within national societies as well as between countries.

It is recalled that the term pathology was initially used in medicine until the end of the nineteenth century, when it began to being applied to social phenomena. This concept was used to determine human activities opposing ideals of stability, property, savings, family and neighbourhood solidarity.

It is indicated that worldwide globalization is an extension of the activities in
all areas across national borders. The promoted conception of “one world” clearly differentiated, distinguishes between three areas of the globe: the center, borderland areas and the periphery, among which exist interdependent relations.

A modern state is a challenge for conventional theories of international relations, as trouble spots, such as war and peace, conflict and cooperation, acquire new and unexpected dimensions, which can be illustrated by the example of the “security dilemma”. Among modern states, safety can be achieved in terms of anarchy: states co-exist on an international “state of nature” like gladiators fighting to the death with each other. However, post-modern world countries eliminate traditional security issues, due to intensified international cooperation. International anarchy is intensively replaced by the authority of the state. Postmodern countries, being liberal democracies, are characterized by a high degree of interdependence, both in the economic sphere as well as in other fields. This allows us to build a common civic identity.

It is proved that in the science of international relations, there is no coherent and comprehensive theory of conflict. Due to the complex nature of international conflicts in the conflict-analysis one must derive from the experience of many social sciences: psychology, anthropology, history, philosophy, geography and political science. One can say about conflicts when one group of people, having a specific ethnic, linguistic, cultural, religious, socio-economic, political identity – consciously opposes another group or groups, due to the fact that these groups have interests contrary to the interests of the community.

Further, it is pointed out that the term mafia is inextricably linked with the term organized crime. Mafia in media is primarily synonymous with the most effective criminal activity. Its aim is to make profits and protect the interests of its members; the mafia’s activity harms the interests of the state. The Mafia phenomenon can be defined by taking into account various factors which indicate that crimes are organized. Due to the complex nature of economic crime the mafia must work together with a larger group of people to carry out their illegal activities. Currently, the major pathological threats in the economic sphere include: 1. Processes associated with ownership transformations, 2. Criminal activity in Polish business entities that were created in “tax havens”, 3. Exploiting loopholes in customs and tax standards, often with government agencies cooperation, 4. “Excise tax crime”, so called production and distribution of alcohol and cigarettes, as well as smuggling, 5. VAT fraud through the fictitious trade in goods and services, 6. Clerical and economic corruption (p. 34–35).
“Money laundering” is situated among pathologies. In order to counteract the phenomena a standard of organization was established, operating within each country. It consists of three parts, namely the criminalization of money laundering, obligations of financial institutions to determine the true identity of their customers, informing the relevant authorities about the undertaken transactions with archiving documents and the establishment of specialized units collecting information and police forces directed in a special way to prosecute money laundering (p. 39).

It is noted that criminal groups caring about maximizing profits, which they reach from illegal sources, must remember about minimizing the risk of disclosure, and the most common way to ensure security is corrupting judicial officers, law enforcement agencies and officials. Especially dangerous is the misappropriation of corrupted officials, protection over the criminals, sharing documents and information and exerting pressure on the officers who are involved in criminal activities. The term “tax havens” means generally those countries with a low or zero tax rate on all or selected categories of income, a level of banking or commercial secrecy, and little or no reserve requirements at the central bank or any foreign exchange restriction (p. 46–47).

Depository institutions are often used in money laundering due to the fact that the criminals must hide large sums of cash. The introduction of difficulties, which are: an obligation to determine the identity of customers and notifying the authorities about suspicious transactions, forced criminal groups to employ so-called couriers, whose job it is to make cash transactions in various financial institutions.

It is emphasized that there is currently no effective way to limit the use of tax havens for illegal activities of organized criminal groups. Despite the opportunities provided by legislation of the tax havens member countries, most regulatory systems of both the U.S. and European countries acknowledge their existence. The existence of tax havens is desired by too many people, including the decision makers from political and economic spheres (p. 59).

Describing the concept of terrorism as a political reality, analytical issues are distinguished: 1 Terrorism and political life, 2 Terrorism in international reality, 3 The essence of terrorism in modern pathology, 4 Cyber terrorism – a modern form of political terrorism, 5 Methods of activities of organized terrorist groups, 6 Ways of tackling the problem of terrorism. It is noted that on the basis of the phenomenon of terrorism it can be said that modern terrorism is a global international phenomenon. Due to its nature, the safety precautions used by the countries need to be global in nature. The International fight
against terrorism should be based on the use of endogenous and exogenous factors, to implement initiatives aimed at the prevention and offensive and at the same time analyzing the military, police and public servants. A very important aspect is also a restriction on the freedom of terrorists actions taken by impeding anti-terrorist activities.

In the presentation the issue of maritime piracy are distinguished: 1 Maritime piracy and modern civilization, 2 Cells in the process of historical piracy, 3 In Southeast Asia, 4 On the continent of Africa, 5 In the region of South America, the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea, 6 On the Polish coast, 7 International anti-piracy phenomenon.

Presenting the issue of torture, analytical issues are extracted: 1 Definition of phenomenon, 2 Origin of terror institutions, 3 The Dehumanizing face of torture, 4 Torture and contemporary international realities, 5 Ethics and torture, 6 Protection against torture, 7 Examples of violations of the prohibition of torture.

In the characteristics of human organ trafficking, analytical questions are pointed: 1 The concept and scope of trafficking of organs, 2 International strength in human organ trade, 3 Defective international mechanisms and trafficking in human organs, 4 Methods of human organ trafficking.

In describing the international environment against the arms trade, analytically issues are distinguished: 1 Weapons and types, 2 Legal and illegal arms trade, 3 Trade of conventional arms in Polish legislation, 4 UN action to reduce limitation in control of conventional arms, 5 The European Union and arms control, 6 The Control Arms Campaign and The Arms Trade Treaty, 7 Causes of illicit arms trade on the international stage.

It is noted that the production of weapons in the world is developed on a large scale. The number of companies involved in the production of weapons is much higher than the global demand for this product. Therefore, the issue of limitation of production should be considered, and in some cases – the closure of companies producing weapons. With the current disparities between developed and developing countries, the rich countries should allocate funds, which have been used to finance weapons purchases, on education, health care or to buy food for Third World countries. This would reduce the level of poverty in this region, limiting the number of armed conflicts.

In Conclusion it is stressed that the international pathological phenomena can be seen through the prism of the risks and hazards they generate for modern civilization and culture. Most committed global actions which are prohibited: arms trafficking, organ trafficking and torture tools. The presence of these phenomena destabilize the functioning of societies, as well as they have a negative impact on
relations between actors in international relations.

A key aspect in the process of eliminating pathology in international relations is spelled out with the problem and identify areas of its operation. This may be difficult to achieve due to the dynamic development of international relations (s. 195).

The lecture is enriched with carefully collected literature, a summary in English and an index of persons.

The reading of the present cognitive study shows that: 1. Social pathologies are a highly situated part in the cultural and civilizational processes, 2 They are generated both by high power factors, as well as the general public, trying to function in life on the basis of the so-called culture. Abbreviations, 3 The main actors of international reality – strategists reveal efforts to prevent the pathological phenomena of cultural life.

Present work provides a carefully structured knowledge, definition, explanatory and predictive for the development of pathology in contemporary international realities. The study deserves the attention of a wide range of cognitive readers, including scholars of modern civilization changes.