Punishment of community service and its performance

Abstract

The aim of this thesis is to describe a current legislation on punishment of community service and thanks to its description together with the statistical data about this punishment from years 2013 to 2017 define problems that have a negative impact on its functioning. Other methods to reach this goal are comparison with the legislation in different European countries, focusing on activity of Probation and mediation service of the Czech Republic and overview of Czech case law, which was defining for a current understanding of this punishment.

First part of this thesis includes definitions of key concepts that are necessary for understanding on how this punishment works and what it is based on.

Second part of this thesis includes overview of the Czech legislation related to punishment of community service and its performance and also an overview on how this legislation works in actual fact. Professional literature, opinions of judges, district attorneys and probation officers as well as my own notices were used to describe its actual works on a day to day basis.

Third part of this thesis is showing statistical data about this punishment that comes from Probation and mediation service of the Czech Republic. These statistical data shows the number of files that probation and mediation service of Czech Republic records during different stages of the court proceedings.

Fourth part of this thesis is focused on activities of the Probation and mediation service of the Czech Republic related to punishment of community service as well as on the comparison of legislation related to this punishment in different European countries and last but not least on Czech case law that is related to this punishment.

All these parts are leading towards the last fifth part of this thesis, in which current problems and shortcomings of this punishment are addressed. Possible solutions of these problems and shortcomings are also stated in this part.

Key words: punishment, alternative punishment, community service