Abstract

The main theme of this thesis, as the name suggests, is the crime of sexual coercion. This relatively new offense is regulated in seven paragraphs of Section 186 of the Penal Code. Since its introduction into Czech criminal law, it has been a useful addition to the crimes of rape (Section 185 CC) and child sexual abuse (Section 187 CC). It allows the criminalization of offenders who have committed such unlawful acts against human dignity related to sexuality, in particular the freedom of an individual to decide on their sex life, in cases, where sexually aggressive behaviour of the perpetrator has not reached the intensity of rape or child sexual abuse, while the perpetrator remained in the role of an observer, while the victim was forced to satisfy the erotic perception of the perpetrator through his (victim’s) body and his own actions.

In the first chapter the topic of legal regulation of sexual offenses is set in historical context. Later in the thesis, the crime of sexual coercion is analysed, described, explained and clarified in detail, the thesis deals with its object, physical elements (actus reus), offender (the subject) and mental elements (mens rea), including qualified facts and individual developmental stages. The offense of sexual coercion is further compared with the offenses of rape and child sexual abuse, from which are derived the situations in which these three offenses occur most often and are described and subsequently legally qualified for a better understanding of the issue. The thesis also deals with the Czech criminal law regulation of crimes against human dignity related to sexuality in general. This regulation is further compared in particular with the legal regulation of these offenses in the UK and marginally with the regulation in Slovakia, as well as with the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention and Fight against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, the so-called Istanbul Convention – the most recent international legal document on this topic. Based on the knowledge gained, opinions de lege ferenda which could contribute to the elimination of shortcomings that the Czech legislation has are derived, as it follows from this work.