

## **Abstract**

### **Criminal Aspects of Corruption**

Corruption is currently a serious social problem which can be dealt with by means of criminal law, by virtue of the ultima ratio principle. This thesis deals with the issue of corruption from the perspective of substantive criminal law, especially with bribery offences included in the third part of Title X of the special part of the Czech Criminal Code.

The introductory part is focused on general issues of corruption, including problematic aspects of the definition of this term and characterization of various forms of corruption. It also includes a subchapter that focuses on efforts to measure corruption and to compare the corruption situation in various countries. The main focus of this work then lies in the analysis of the current legislation of the offences of bribery. It is considered whether it allows effective sanctioning of bribery offenders, whether it acts as a suitable mean of deterring potential offenders, and whether it meets other general requirements, such as certainty of the offences. Attention is furthermore paid to the key notions of corruption offences, such as the notion of bribe or the general interest, and the interpretative problems associated with them. Subsequently, the individual crimes are analyzed, for which the conclusions expressed by judicial practice are used. The legislation is studied with respect to the requirements of international treaties and EU regulations on the criminalization of corruption, as well as with respect to selected foreign legislation.

Finally, some of the possible ways of sanctioning bribery, as allowed by the current czech criminal legislation, are emphasized. In addition to the analysis of the current situation, a comparison is made with the previous regulation and with the selected foreign regulation in terms of imprisonment rates. Moreover, available statistics of the Ministry of Justice are used to evaluate the current practice of imposing penalties for corruption.

**Klíčová slova: bribery, corruption, criminalization of corruption**