

Material security of the elderly – old age pension and pension reform

Abstract

The topic of this diploma thesis is the material security of the elderly – old age pension and pension reform. Its aim is to present the issue of old-age pensions in detail, to point out the shortcomings of the Czech pension system and offer the possibility of comparing it with the pension systems of Chile, Great Britain and Sweden. The first part defines the legal regulation of old-age pensions and their purpose. The conditions of entitlement to a pension are also described, namely the retirement age and the condition for obtaining the required period of pension insurance. The calculation and amount of old-age pensions are outlined and individual types of this pension are illustrated by using model example. Moreover, the issue of working pensioners is discussed. The second part of the thesis deals with the organization and management of the material security of the elderly. Specifically, the competence of social security authorities in this area is determined and then the individual phases of proceedings before these authorities are described. The proceedings have the nature of administrative proceedings and require a high level of expertise of the Czech Social Security Administration officials. In addition, the chapter is devoted to remedies and judicial review of decisions. The third part is dedicated to the pension reform in the Czech Republic. The Constitutional Court ruling issued on 23 March 2010, file no. Pl. ÚS 8/07, shows that the Czech pension system generates annual deficits of 4 to 5 % of GDP (8 to 9 % in 2020) and that it is microeconomically inefficient. It also shows that the pension system needs a comprehensive reform in the long run to ensure its financial sustainability. This chapter then discusses historical and current efforts for pension reform in the Czech Republic. The fourth chapter offers the possibility of comparing the Czech pension system with the systems of foreign countries, which represent the liberal, social-democratic and neoliberal model of pension insurance.

Key words:

Old age pension, pension scheme, pension reform