

This diploma thesis analyses extraterritorial application of *acquis communautaire* on merger control. The aim of this work is to take down current state of development of law in this area, identify actual questions and problems and introduce methods that could possibly solve those problems.

The introductory chapter defines the theme and goals of this work and deals with resources used. The second chapter explains the European legal regulation system of merger control. Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 of 20 January 2004 on the control of concentrations between undertakings holds a central role in this system. European Commission is a competition authority of European Communities and in order to protect competition on common market it proceeds also against companies that operate outside European territory. The third chapter explores the ways how European Commission derives a legal basis of such extraterritorial jurisdiction. The most appropriate means of jurisdictional derivation regarding merger control appears to be an effects doctrine. Next chapter identifies problems connected with extraterritorial application of European competition law, such as conflict of jurisdictions, limits of national competition laws, multijurisdictional merger thicket, substantial differences in laws and different market characteristics. Sixth and seventh chapter analyses bilateral and multilateral methods that are being used in an effort to solve identified problems. Special emphasis is given to the cooperation between the European Commission and the Antitrust division of US Department of Justice as it is the most developed bilateral relationship in the area of competition protection. The most significant platforms of multilateral cooperation are World Trade Organisation and International Competition Network. These and other forums are spaces of expert discussions about the future form of multilateral solution of international competition protection. European Union pursues great initiative in this area.

The conclusion summarizes the analyses and tries to evaluate which legal solution of problems related to extraterritorial application of *acquis communautaire* on merger control is the most acceptable. The work concluded that the problems should be tackled both by bilateral and multilateral means, because both are effective in certain ways and they can countenance each other. The work also offered some suggestions regarding the possible form of future multilateral solution.