

PERMISSION TO THE OPERATION OF GAMBLING – ABSTRACT

This diploma thesis deals with the legal regulation of the obtainment of a permission to the operation of gambling in the Czech Republic. Gambling and the conditions for their operation are currently regulated by the Act No. 186/2016 Coll., on gambling, which was significantly amended with effect from 1 January 2024. The most fundamental changes include the introduction of an initial licence, simplification of the blocking of unauthorised online games and the introduction of other measures for responsible gaming.

The introductory part of this diploma thesis deals with gambling operators, individual gambling types, their operation via the Internet, as well as the general legal requirements that gambling operators must fulfil for the legal operation of gambling. The permission to the operation of gambling and the procedures of its obtainment are examined in more detail in the next part of this diploma thesis. In the Gambling Act, the licencing procedure is used in particular, while for some gambling types, the notification procedure is used; none of that applies to the raffle with the game receipts not exceeding CZK 200 000. In order to obtain a permission to the operation of a lottery, an odds bet, a totalizator game, bingo, a technical game and a live game, it is necessary to obtain an initial licence and a basic licence, for the land-based operation of a technical game, a live games and bingo, a gambling premises location licence must be obtained at the same time. All these licences and the individual conditions for their issuance by the relevant administrative authority are analysed in detail in the diploma thesis, attention is also paid to applications for the individual licences and their mandatory annexes. In relation to the basic licence and the gambling premises location licence, this diploma thesis also focuses on the progress of the number of legal operators on the Czech gambling market and the progress of the number of permitted gaming premises in the Czech Republic. Related to this, the efficiency of the licencing process is assessed, and at the same time, the expected benefits of the amendment of the Gambling Act effective from 1 January 2024 are evaluated.

Key words: gambling, gambling operators, initial and basic licence