

## **Abstract**

### **Substitute Maintenance in the Czech Republic**

The thesis focuses on substitute maintenance, introduced into the Czech legal system by Act No. 588/2020 Coll., on Advance of Maintenance Payment for Dependent Child and on Amendments to Certain Related Acts (Act on Advance of Maintenance Payment). The thesis aims to analyse this legislation, provide a critical perspective on selected sections, and place substitute maintenance in the broader context of single-parent families and the aid measures provided to them by the state.

The first chapter examines the phenomenon of single-parent families and their origins, with particular focus on the gendered aspects of single parenthood. It also addresses the employment opportunities for single parents, their challenging situation in the labour market, and the increased risk of poverty and social exclusion they face in the long term.

The second chapter deals with the private law regulation of the maintenance obligation and the right to maintenance, emphasizing the maintenance obligation towards adult and minor children, which the law on substitute maintenance stems from. It interconnects the institutions of private and public law, with the state providing substitute maintenance in case the obliged persons – most frequently parents – fail to fulfil their obligation.

The core part of the thesis provides a critical analysis of the law on substitute maintenance, focusing on the historical legislation of Czechoslovakia and comparing various attempts to adopt the law since the establishment of the Czech Republic. Regarding the current wording of the law on substitute maintenance, the analysis focuses on defining the entitled person, setting the conditions for establishing the right to substitute maintenance, the course of proceedings, the transfer of the claim to the state, etc.

In the last chapter, other forms of state aid for single parents are discussed, including the overall direction of family policy in this respect, the position of single parents in the social security system, etc. Finally, the thesis addresses the possibilities of balancing personal and work life as this is a fundamental issue affecting the everyday lives of single parents. The final part of the thesis summarizes all the aforementioned findings, stressing the problematic aspects of the law on substitute maintenance.

**Keywords:** single-parent family, substitute maintenance, gender