

12. Summary

The preparation and passing of hardly any legal regulation arouse so much passion and discussions in the recent years, both on the political scene and among citizens, as the Registered Partnership Act, i.e. the procedural rule regulating the formal union of persons of the same sex with a similar (but not identical) content as marriage. It happened nearly eight years from the moment when the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic submitted the first member's integral bill of the registered partnership of persons of the same sex. On 3 April 2006, this bill was published, in spite of the President's veto, in the Collection of Laws under No. 115/2006 titled the Act on Registered Partnership and on Changes in Some Related Acts. The explanatory report of the bill says that the Act enables couples of the same sex to establish the registered partnership in a form recognized by law, with the scope of rights and duties defined exactly by an independent legal regulation. The leading principle for passing the Act was the effort to eliminate the discrimination of sexually oriented persons, while using the resources resulting for the Czech Republic from the obligation of membership in the European Union. The objective of my paper was to take into account the historical and current development of cohabitation of two persons of the same sex both in our country and in the other European countries, and further mainly to provide the integral analysis of the current Czech legal regulation as well as of what preceded passing the Registered Partnership Act. As I already mentioned in my paper, the Act is intended for the persons who could not or did not want to choose the form of cohabitation with a person of the

opposite sex with respect to their personal inclinations and characteristics, and therefore passing this Act could not "threaten" in any way the number and desire of people of the different sex to enter into mutual marriages and the existence of family. The legal stabilization of partnership relations of persons of the same sex has led to strengthening human and civil rights of partners, but also to their motivation to stay in a long-term union. Even if it is a relatively new procedural rule that has already been amended several times, in spite of that I could not omit to highlight in my paper defects of the current legal regulation as well as I tried to formulate impulses of the possible future legal regulation.