

This thesis deals with crime in the urban environment, focusing on the city of Liberec. The basic approaches to urban studies and the basic theories of criminality are mentioned in the theoretical background. The results of various Czech and foreign studies dealing with the same topic are also mentioned. The methodological section contains the explanation of statistical analyses based on the data obtained from the Police and Czech statistical office and from guided interviews with members of the Police and the Municipality of Liberec. The main aim of the thesis is to define characteristics which influence crime and its location in the urban space, and to sketch out what the best crime prevention in the urban space could be. In the empirical part of the thesis firstly, the most frequent offenders and the most frequent types of crime are identified. Then, the influence of the residents' characteristics and the characteristics of urban environment on the crime rates are considered in the subsequent analyses. These analyses are grouped into three factors called the socioeconomic conditions of residents, the living conditions and the quality of flats. The results of the analyses are combined with the outcomes of guided interviews to form the final conclusions. The first one is that crime in Liberec is mainly (except for one police district) dependent on the geographic location of the city centre and the specific functions of the particular neighborhoods. The most problematic localities are the housing estates and the town centre. Finally, this thesis proposes a prevention strategy which is, apart from the mentioned sources, based on the study realized by a private company for the Municipality of Liberec.