

## **Poverty and its solution in social assistance systems**

This work deals with problems of poverty and possibilities of its solution. At first, it follows history of this phenomenon in our country. After the theoretical determination of poverty follows individual conceptions of poverty such as absolute and relative, objective and subjective, simple and complex. In the complex conception, poverty is seen as a phenomenon, which has influence on people's life in several dimensions at the same time. A definition of individual conceptions is important for research work to determine size and intensity of poverty in a particular society. Today, we have two main social – political instruments. They help to establish the formal limit of poverty. There are minimum living standard and subsistence level. The amount of minimum living standard and minimally guaranteed wage influences motivation of people to work.

The passing of Act No. 111/2006 Sb., on assistance in material indigence, established a new legislative framework regulating this questions. Its basic ideas are: more restrictive circumstances for paying the benefits, active integration of people in solving their problems relating to poverty and prevention of their formation. As compared with other members of European Union the Czech Republic is doing well (on the average). Attention could be paid to evolving lifelong learning and integrating socially excluded people back into society.