Resumé

The topic of my diploma thesis is „Legal regulation of Natura 2000 Network“. Natura 2000 is a network that seeks to preserve biodiversity within the territory of the EU. Natura 2000 was imposed by the article 3 of the Habitats Directive, which along with the Bird Directive are the most important legal acts aiming at biodiversity conservation in the European Union.

The main purpose of this work is the legal analysis of the legal arrangement of the Natura 2000 Network by taking the european context under consideration.

First three chapters describes the concept of Natura 2000 Network and its history, including a short description of biodiversity protection within the international law (relevant international agreements).

The next chapter is focused on the European Union Law. Firstly, it describes the history of environmental policy within the european law and the institutions and funds connected to Natura 2000 Network.

The law base of Nature 2000 network is formed by the European Directive 2009/147/EEC on the conservation of the wild birds (so called „Birds Directive“) and the European Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of the natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (so called „Habitats Directive“). These directives enable designation of two types of protected areas – Special Protected Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) which together constitute the Natura 2000 Network.

Special Protected Areas are designated under the Birds Directive and their purpose is to protect the habitats of the threatened bird species listed in Annex I of this directive and migratory species.

Special Areas of Conservation are classified under the Habitats Directive and provide rare and vulnerable animals, plants and habitats with increased protection and management.

The fifth chapter focuses on the transposition and implementation of both directives into Czech Law. It was carried out by the Amendment No. 218/2004, which changes Act No. 114/1992 on Nature and Landscape Protection. In the Czech Republic, Natura 2000 consists of so called „Bird areas” and „Sites of Community Importance”.
I think that the transposition into Czech Law was, with certain inadequacies, quite successful. Some shortcomings were solved by the amendment No. 349/2009 Coll., which updated Law No. 114/1992 Coll.

Natura 2000 is in my opinion one of the most important objectives in EU policies on nature protection and its support and enforcement is the key aspect of the conservation of natural resources and biodiversity in Europe. Apart from environmental benefits, Natura 2000 network can also offer certain socio-ekonomic benefits.