

Abstract

The aim of the thesis is to compare the system of social services in the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic. The author's purpose is to focus on ongoing reforms of both systems and to analyze how successful they are in achieving their targets. These targets come from current trends in the field of social services and are also incorporated in the documents of the European Union.

The thesis consists of two parts. The first contains an analysis of the legislation of social services in the Czech Republic and the Slovakia – author analyzes the historical evolution in their legislation and the content of their current laws. The second part of the thesis contains the comparison of the Czech and the Slovak system of social services. Therefore, the main research method used in this work is the method of comparative analysis.

The work finds out that Czech and Slovak enactments of social services have some common features. It is obvious that they are based on the common ground. They bring new precautions which should lead into an increase in quality of social services. These precautions can be mainly seen as positive, despite the fact that they have a few shortcomings. But the systems of social services have still lot of serious weak points. The economic inefficiency seems to be the main problem of the Czech system. The Slovak system has the different deficiencies – it brings the restrictions of competition among providers of social services and discriminates the non-governmental organizations. It can be concluded, that the Czech and Slovak systems of social services are still in the process of finding the right way how to provide high-quality, accessible and economically sustainable social services. They have already made some successful steps in this direction but there are still some areas where the situation is unsatisfactory. It is necessary to continue in the reforms.