

ABSTRACT

What is the value of information? This is the crucial question that arises in relation to the legal protection of databases. The rise of new media created a brand new world that we labelled the *information society* in which the information is one of the most valuable assets. The power of digitalization came hand in hand with this rapid transformation and has offered us an almost indefinite amount of storage space and permitted us the dramatic increase of speed for the transfer of data and information, while, consequently making violation and infringing of intellectual property rights simpler than ever before.

The form of a database has been transformed and has become increasingly important as a way of organizing data and information in the age of information society. This State Doctoral Thesis called *The Legal Protection of Databases* aims to present the comparative analysis of database protection in three countries—namely the Czech Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America. The choice of countries allows covering different approaches to the legal protection of databases of two biggest competitors on the world database market—the United States of America and the EU, and to present the aspects of copyrights and *sui generis* protection. Moreover, the historical background of introducing the respective bills and passing the acts and analysis of the decisions held by the Court of Justice of the European Union, which is crucial for understanding the European *sui generis* protection, are presented.