

Abstract – Discrimination against Roma in Czech Republic?

The purpose of my thesis is to analyse the issue of discrimination against the Roma people in the Czech Republic, particularly from the perspective of the state – whether the Roma ethnic group in our country is indeed discriminated against and how the state copes with this possible racial discrimination. This theme became more important in connection with the riots in Šluknov in 2011. The thesis is divided into four main chapters. Chapter One deals with the history of Roma-related legal acts promulgated in our lands. It covers the history from the arrival of the Roma in our lands, the promulgation of legal acts during the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and Czechoslovakia, until the effort of the Communist Party to assimilate them. Chapter Two is focused on the discrimination against Roma in education. In this chapter I analyse the judgment of the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights on the case *D. H. and others vs. Czech Republic*. On this judgement, the court held that there was discrimination against the Roma concerning their access to education and violation of the European Convention on Human Rights and its protocols by the Czech Republic. After an evaluation of this judgement I propose some measures which could lead to the elimination of this discrimination and an improvement in the education of the Roma. In Chapter Three I focused on discrimination against Roma during the investigation of racially motivated crimes. I analyse two cases in which the bodies responsible for the criminal investigation were found to have misconducted and had to be decided by The Supreme Court of the Czech Republic. Chapter Four deals with the discrimination against Roma on the labour market. First, I mention researches that prove the high rate of Roma unemployment and later I analyse two cases of discrimination against Roma applicants for employment. In this chapter I also consider possible solutions including affirmative actions in the form of quotas for Roma at State Offices. At the end of my thesis I state that in each area of concern there was discrimination against Roma in the Czech Republic. In the criminal policy sphere, action has been taken in order to effectively eliminate discrimination. However, there is still much to be done when it comes to the discrimination on the education and employment spheres.

Key words: discrimination, Roma

Klíčová slova: diskriminace, Romové