

Abstract

This thesis brings attention to one of the most controversial and discussed part of the legal branch of intellectual property rights. Software piracy, which could be generally defined as infringement of rights to the computer programme, is a remarkable phenomenon which includes various different aspects and it could be judged from very different legal views.

This thesis focuses on the computer programme as a special type of copyrighted work and its position within the system of Czech copyright. A great attention is put on provision concerning protection of this intangible asset.

As software piracy is inseparably connected with a specific subculture called warez scene, the thesis focuses on this subculture and it is trying to reflect the activities of the scene in the view of the Czech law.

Attention is also paid to the liability of internet services providers, who allow the distribution of the pirate software as well as to liability of common users who use the software not only for their personal usage but also for fulfilment of their work obligations.