

Abstract

Defence research and development is an important public policy phenomenon, which represents a relevant part of security policy and interferes with many other areas when considered in a wider perspective. My diploma thesis presents an analysis of the Czech policy of defence research and development and an international comparison with the Netherlands and Slovakia. Governmental policy in this area is relatively pro-active as regards its declared settings. On the other hand, its actual practise reveals many problematic areas. Ministry of Defence's expenditure on defence research and development has been falling since 1999 and recently finds itself well below the limit guaranteed by the law. Insufficient utilisation of foreign financial support might be considered negatively as well. The analysis that I carried out in my thesis identified fundamental shortcomings of the Czech system, the functioning of which is far from being optimal. The deficiencies have mostly a systemic manner and can not be solved by partial changes. Due to this reason I propose an alternative set up of the Czech policy of defence research and development, based on a shift to the agency model inspired by the Dutch experience.