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Key words:

Czech Republic, municipalities, non-governmental organisations, providers of social services, public administration, public policy, regions, social services, state

Abstract:

Social services should be perceived as important instrument of the system of social protection in the Czech Republic. The extent of provision of social services by organisation representing different institutional sectors should be considered as key characteristics of this system. Two main groups of organisations should be distinguished in this regard primarily – public and private organisations. However both these broad categories consist of different subjects: state, regional or municipal organisations in the first case and for-profit organisations, entrepreneurs, social enterprises or non-profit organisations in the second.

The primary aim of the thesis is to analyse the extent of provision of social services by public organisations (all above mentioned types), however the provision of social services by private organisations has been analysed as well, because this question is complementary to the previous one. The analysis of public and private providers of social services is – not sufficient, but very important – basis for answering a more general question on the role of public administration in the area of social services. This matter builds at the same time essential prerequisite for considerations, whether the terms social services and public services match together, in which regard and into which extent.