

Summary

Crime relating to the abuse of addictive substances

Crime relating to the abuse of addictive substances is still a current legal issue. It is a really broad topic including many different questions, namely illegal alcohol production, crimes committed by drug users to get money for their drug or crimes committed on drug users. However, the purpose of my thesis is to analyse drug offences in the Czech Penal law.

First chapter deals with the history of legal regulation of crimes relating to the abuse of non-alcoholic drugs, because existing legislation is in many ways based on it. In this legal area, our country is still bound by several international conventions and I have devoted them in this chapter too. Finally, this chapter includes some basic information about our new penal code.

The merit of this thesis is contained in chapters 2 – 6. Here substantive rules of drug offences according to articles 283 – 287 of the penal code are analyzed using the commentary on the penal law, articles of legal experts, and especially jurisprudence. Our new penal code brought into the issue of drug offences a new offence called “Illegal cultivation of plants containing narcotic or psychotropic substances for personal use of an amount greater than small” according to article 285 of the new penal code. Drugs were subdivided into cannabis-based group and group of other narcotic or psychotic substances. For legal certainty, it is very important that two government decrees stipulated what these amounts “greater than small” according to articles 283 – 285 and article 289 of the penal code actually are.

Related issues, e.g. new synthetic drugs or issue of cannabis shops, are discussed together with that drug offence to which they are the closest. In these cases I have used other sources such as relevant Internet news sites.

At the end of this thesis, I have dedicated to categorize criminal offences associated with the use of addictive substances, e.g. criminal offence of intoxication according to article 360 of the penal code.

I believe that my work will be a modest contribution to the debate on the issue of substance abuse.