

## Abstract

The subject of this thesis is Collective management of musical works in Czech Republic. Copyright law is specific area of Intellectual property law that protects copyright works. Intangible character of copyright law is the reason of lower level of possible protection by the right holders themselves. This is the reason why copyright holders unite in associations so called Collective management associations (CMA). CMA can ensure better protection than right holders themselves and push ahead their interests. CMA acts in their names but on the account of the right holders.

CMA mainly protects two types of rights- mechanical rights (reproduction, renting etc.) and performing rights (concerts, background music etc.). Because of worldwide boom of internet piracy, income from mechanical rights in the beginning of 21<sup>st</sup> century drastically declined. In accordance with this trend declines the importance of mechanical rights in their original form. That's why this thesis is concern mainly on performing rights that are connected on communication to the public. The importance of mechanical rights is carrying on the internet and also on private copying levies which are also mentioned in special chapters. Performing rights are divided according to the type of usage into five categories of rights: live performing (concerts, theatre, etc.), performing of recorded music (background music in pubs, stores or hotels, dance parties, etc.), TV or radio broadcasting, using of broadcasting in public places and also transmission of these rights. Each category of right is mention in specific chapter in this thesis.

CMAs are divided according to the types of works that are protecting (musical works, dramatic, audiovisual and literary works etc.). This thesis is concerned on musical works because their protection has a longest tradition and CMA concerned on this type of works are also much bigger that the others. Musical works are works of writers and composers and according to the Czech copyright act they are protected for 70 years from the death of the certain right holder.

Collective management of musical works in Czech Republic is provided by OSA – Ochranný svaz autorský pro práva k dílům hudebním, o.s. which was established in 1919 and nowadays is the biggest from all of the six CMAs in Czech republic.