

Summary

The purpose of my thesis is to analyse crime relating to the abuse of addictive substances. This is a very broad topic that affects many non-legal areas such as health care or economy. It is also associated with many criminological questions. However, in my thesis I focused on drug offences stated in the Czech Criminal Code. This topic was already processed several times, yet it still remains topical since the drug scene is constantly evolving, especially thanks to advanced technologies.

The thesis is composed of seven chapters and the first chapter is aimed on defining the basic terms, which I consider crucial for the understanding of the issue. In this chapter I also define the basic terminology used in the thesis. The next chapter deals with the history of the legal regulation of the abuse of addictive non-alcoholic substances. I focused especially on the national legislation and to the limited extent also on international treaties. The first act I mentioned is “Břetislav decrees” from 1039 and gradually I’m getting to the current Criminal Code. One part of the chapter is devoted to the previous Criminal Code no. 140/1961 Coll.

The merit of my thesis is contained in the chapters 3 – 7. Each chapter describes one of the drug offences, which are found in the articles 283 – 287 of the Criminal Code. I analysed each of the criminal offences using primarily legal literature and Supreme Court decisions.

In the above mentioned chapters, I tried to respond to current issues related to individual criminal offences. In the third chapter I concentrate on the problem of new synthetic drugs and how is Czech legislation trying to respond in most effective way to these constantly emerging new synthetic drugs. The fifth chapter deals with the new Czech legislation legalizing cannabis for medical purposes and I tried to describe some advantages and disadvantages of full legalization of cannabis. Chapter seven is focused on the issue of so-called “growshops” and how Czech courts react to these specialized shops for growing cannabis. In these parts of my thesis, I was also using internet news.

Some of the drug offences use the legal term “amount greater than small”. Last year, significant changes occurred around this term since the Constitutional Court annulled regulation, which determined this amount. Now the amount is determined by the courts itself. I pay attention to this issue in the fourth chapter.