

The paper: „Comparison of lustration laws in Central European states: Czechoslovakia, Poland and Baltic states“ describes the emergence and application of the lustration laws in context of the political transformation of these states from the beginning of the 90s. The main objective of this paper is to answer the question, what are the differences and similarities in the functioning of the lustration laws in these states and whether there is a single explanation for their divergence. For this purpose the paper describes the political and historical background from which these laws emerged in each state separately. This part, among other things, outlines the concept of the „double-tracked“ lustrations in Latvia and Estonia, where the laws followed both the collaboration rationale and the ethnical divide. The paper also aims to critically outline the most prominent theoretical approaches to the aforementioned question of the disparities between lustrations in different states. The second aspect of lustrations, which this paper examines, is their conformity with the standards of the European Convention on Human Rights. From analysing the judicature of the ECHR, the paper concludes that the court was very self-restrained in examining these laws and only intervened in the cases of clearly excessive scope of the positions protected by the lustrations.