

Summary

This master thesis deals with Legal and Psychological Aspects of Adoptions. As far as the first chapter is concerned, it goals to introduce the institute of adoption, describe it in its historical context and outline its legal regulation. The adoption is one of the oldest institutes of the family law and its roots date back to ancient civilizations. As the society has been evolving and changing during the centuries, the conception and content of this institute has been transformed as well. The primary impulse of this institute was to regulate property issues, mostly in favour of an adoptive parent. This is what distinguishes present regulation that principally aims at rendering protection to an adoptive child. During the evolution of this ancient institute, the humanistic notion has prevailed. This notion is reflected by both international treaties and national legal regulation, they both render protection to the child and its interests.

The aim of my diploma thesis in the second chapter is to cover the regulation of the institute of adoption in the view of the Act No. 89/2012 Coll., the Civil Code and compare the most important changes to previous regulation including possible evaluation of its positive or negative impact on the reality. The most important change brought by new regulation is in the conception of the adoption, which should not have been understood as an institute of alternative family care but as the best alternative to the relationship of parents. This conception is reflected by another change – de facto termination of the form of an adoption. Thesis dealt with explanation of the terms which are related to the term adoption, the process of arrangement of adoption and a new procedure of adoption.

As the main purpose of adoption is mainly the transformation of relationships, my goal in the final chapter was to explain what psychological impact this procedure has on all persons involved. In the cases where a legal regulation has a direct impact on the new relationships which have evolved between an adoptive parent and adoptive child, I focused on evaluating whether these legal and psychological effects reciprocally complement each other and seem to be in harmony, or whether the law fails to reflect the real needs of the society to a full extent. Generally, new regulation should be considered progressive, reflecting needs of reality. Though, its real plus and minus could be evaluated in future long lasting usage.