

Abstract

The objective of the submitted diploma thesis is to analyze the subject of a direct democracy system in the Czech Republic focusing on the local level of governance. The possibility of being able to participate imminently in the municipal government and thus amending the current representative model became the subject of not only political discussions over the last few years. The thesis is composed of a foreword and five chapters, which are hereafter divided to subchapters for better transparency. Findings and author suggestions concerning the possible future forms of the local democracy are summarized in the conclusion.

The introductory chapter presents the direct democracy in a theoretical way and shows how it differs from the representative democracy model. It also contains the definition of the five most respected forms of a direct democracy, which are: referendum, plebiscite, citizen initiative, petition and recall. Following two chapters are focused on the situation in Czech Republic, first in general, then with an emphasis on the municipal scene. Efforts to establish an individual form of a direct democracy can be observed already from the year 1918 with various results, new possibilities appeared later as Czech Republic had entered supranational communities. A local referendum still remains a key institute, whose characteristics - described in thesis - complies with the systematic of the law. It is peculiar that there are currently no exact data about local proclaimed referendums available. Evidence provided by Ministry of Internal Affairs had been used to conclude the functioning of this institute in practice, which represents the sufficient basis for calculation of the main statistical indicators, even if it is not a complete overview.

Fourth chapter presents a comparison of local direct democracy models in selected European countries and the conclusions of this comparison were - together with the insufficiency of the current Czech legislation - used as a basis for consideration *de lege ferenda*.