

Abstract

The thesis deals with an issue of legal aspects of stem cell research with a special emphasis on the use of embryonic stem cells which is connected with the most of ethical and legislative controversies. At first, there are presented biological and ethical aspects of the topic necessary for its understanding. The thesis further analyses related legislation relevant for the research conducted in the Czech Republic. With respect to international law, the thesis focuses mainly on the Council of Europe system of protection of human rights. Then, the thesis presents regulation in primary and secondary European Union law. In the two final chapters, there is presented Czech regulation in the constitutional order (in the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms) and laws, which is then viewed in European context as moderately permissive and relatively well prepared. Its greatest weakness is the lack of discussion about the topic in the Czech public.