Abstract of Master's Thesis

The Theoretical Concepts of Rights and Their Protection in Cyberspace

Author: Veronika Jirková

Supervisor: doc. JUDr. Karel Beran, Ph.D.

Department: Department of Legal Theory and Legal Doctrines

This master's thesis is focused on questions regarding the concept and protection of users' rights in cyberspace. This thesis concerns the notion of cyberspace, regulatory systems in it, and finally the extent and protection of rights in cyberspace. The aim of this thesis is, first, to analyse the situation of protection of rights in cyberspace, and second, to identify the ways to improve this situation. This thesis is subdivided into four parts.

The first part is of descriptive nature. It covers some fundamental concepts related to the topic. It describes the notion of cyberspace, the notion and structure of the Internet and the actors who play a role in governance of the Internet.

The second part is aimed at regulatory systems. It describes regulatory systems in both online world (cyberspace) and offline world. These two groups are then compared. Finally, this part demonstrates the impact of the identified discrepancies on practical examples.

The third part relates to the extent of rights in cyberspace. It tries to choose an appropriate theoretical method and it discusses the importance of fundamental rights and freedoms. Further, this part identifies the limits of rights inside and outside cyberspace.

The fourth and final part concerns the protection of rights in cyberspace. It shows the ways which might be useful to enhance the protection of rights and the position of individual users in cyberspace. Furthermore, some long-term problematic aspects are described, too.

The starting points and all particular conclusions are summarised at the end of this theses. They are also presented in the wider context of the recent value and importance of the Internet or cyberspace for an individual user. At the very end of this thesis, full bibliography may be found. It contains mainly books and journal articles in the English language.