

Abstract

Since numerous legislative changes in sickness insurance in the Czech and Slovak republics are currently occurring, it is worth to analyze their impact on society. Because of the interconnected evolution of sickness and health insurance, it is essential to look at these changes from a broader perspective.

Also health insurance regulation constitutes one of the most debated over legal areas due to its enormous implications on the lives of every single one of us. Certain aspects of health insurance reform in the Slovak republic did not go exactly according to the plan and its results are therefore increasingly met with outrage.

The aim of the work is to analyze the most interesting aspects of sickness and health insurance reforms in the Czech and Slovak republics and further identify its positives and weaknesses.

Furthermore two alternative concepts of sickness and health insurance regulation are described. The social welfare system in the United Kingdom is briefly introduced and the legal framework of the National Health Service is presented as an alternative to the local concepts of Health insurance.

Secondly, after successfully implementing large scale reforms in Health insurance regulation, the Netherlands serve as bright example of a market and patient oriented healthcare system with excellent results that are almost second to none across the European Union.

Besides implementing extraordinary successful Health insurance reforms in the past decade, the Dutch have also managed to achieve similar success in the early eighties with a major overhaul of their sickness insurance concept. These reforms enabled the transformation of the Netherlands from one of the worlds most abused sickness insurance systems to a new concept that is given as an example EU wide.

The objective of the work is to provide an overview of the most interesting comparative aspects of the respective systems with a focus on the positives and weakness of the major reforms that took place in the past.

Impact of the respective reforms is analyzed not only from a purely legal point of view, but emphasizes is strongly focused on the economic implications of these regulations.