Abstract

The main goal of the thesis is to analyze and compare the degree of protection of the large-scale nature conservation areas in the legal orders of the Czech Republic, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and, in the conclusion of the thesis, to answer the question of whether these countries’ regulation provides a sufficiently effective protection to these areas.

Legal orders of the examined countries are analyzed with regard to the scope and effectiveness of the large-scale nature conservation legal instruments. Administrative instruments are examined and compared, including the degree of proprietary rights restrictions and related compensations of property loss. Furthermore, the conceptual and economic instruments (both positive and negative stimulation) are also examined. The analysis also focuses on the regulation of legal liability in regard to the large-scale nature conservation.

Next, the thesis focuses on the institutional framework of the large-scale nature conservation in the examined countries and on the evaluation of the scope of the nature protection authorities’ competence. Another point of interest is the degree to which the rights of the relevant subjects (owners, municipalities, environmental NGOs) are affected by the designation of a protected area and by the following assertion of the nature conservation rules.

The thesis also deals with the large-scale nature conservation in the international and European Union law. The obligations set by the international law do not result in an increased level of the large-scale nature conservation areas’ protection. The high standards of protection set by the European Union law for the Natura 2000 sites complement the Czech Republic’s strict regulation of the specially protected areas, while in the Great Britain the European Union regulation leads to a stricter protection compared to the less strict national standards.

In the conclusion of the thesis, the effectiveness of the Czech, Russian and British legislation is compared and the possibility of using the analyzed instruments of the large-scale nature conservation in the Czech legal order is examined.

Keywords

specially protected area, national park, biodiversity protection, management plan, nature protection authority