Abstract:

This diploma thesis deals with mediation as an instrument for ethnic conflict resolution in Africa. The author determined the feasibility and effectiveness of mediation as a tool for solving the ethnic conflict in Africa as the research topic of this thesis. The aim of the diploma thesis is to provide an evaluation of the current international legal regulation of mediation, of its sufficiency and integrity. Furthermore, the author aims to provide a comprehensive and complex view of the use of mediation in ethnic conflict resolution in Africa through an interdisciplinary analysis of the academic literature, both from Czech and foreign sources. The author sees her personal contribution by writing this thesis in the fact that in the Czech Republic the issue of mediation as a tool for ethnic conflict resolution has not been systematically researched yet.

This diploma thesis is divided into four chapters, which are further subdivided into subchapters. The introductory chapter of this thesis describes a theoretical introduction to the issue of ethnicity and its legal regulation. Furthermore, the author deals with the origins of ethnic conflicts. The second chapter deals with the legal framework for international settlement of conflicts. This chapter also discusses in detail the various possible ways of solving international conflicts and assesses their suitability for solving ethnic conflicts. The author has divided the peaceful means of settlement of disputes into two categories - binding and diplomatic ways. The third chapter of this thesis discusses in more detail mediation as a means of resolving disputes, its legal framework and its advantages and disadvantages.

The theoretical part of the thesis is followed by the empirical part in which the author analyzes and compares two case studies. The first case study focuses on mediation efforts that took place in Rwanda between 1990 - 1993. The second example analyzes mediation that took place in Burundi between 1994 - 2005. Both examples focus on the ethnic conflict that broke out between the ethnicities of Hutu and Tutsi. The author discusses the individual phases of mediation and analyzes partial practices in both countries. In the conclusion of each case study, the author assesses the mediation efforts of individual participants, the suitability of the conflict for mediation and the effectiveness of the efforts. At the end of the fourth chapter, the author compares the case studies and outlines the basic lessons and recommendations arising from the case studies for streamlining and ensuring successful mediation. At the end of the diploma thesis, the
author synthesizes the lessons learned from the subchapters, evaluates the degree of international law and the author comes to the conclusion that mediation is one of the appropriate tools for ethnic conflict resolution in Africa.