

Abstract

The thesis *Higher Circles in Defence Sector and Corruption in Defence Materiel Procurement in the Czech Republic* deals with the question of presence of military-industrial complex (MIC) in the Czech society and economy after than more 65 years its constitution in Czechoslovakia by communist defence minister A. Čepička. His effort was initiated by a confidential wish expressed by J. V. Stalin in 1951 within a political meeting with defence ministers newly established people's republics in East Europa. Due to fact that MIC is usually linked with corruption, the thesis deals with the issue of corruption in acquisition of defence materiel; in particular, after 1994 when the first design of building-up the Czech military power was adapted as well as the first acquisition plan of military materiel was introduced for the next 10 years. So, the aim of the thesis is to verify the theory MIC's presence in the Czech Republic and to diagnose the stage of corruption in acquisition of military materiel at the Ministry of Defence. Author scrutinised the validity of two hypotheses: (H1) *the MIC is in the Czech Republic omnipresent* and (H2) *the corruption in acquisition of military materiel at the Ministry of Defence is the stage of systemic corruption*. With application of comparative analysis comparing the Czech Republic and the United States by eight attributes, the hypothesis H1 was disproved. On the other side, the alternative to H1 could not been accepted. Due to fact that a deal of the Czech military tenders is overpriced, the structure affecting the acquisition of military materiel cannot be named as acquisition interventionism. This structure, more complex than iron triangle, was termed as the Czech pentagon. On the contrary, the hypothesis H2 has been proved as to be true in part. The case study of acquisition of troop carriers was employed in order to identify 12 systemic corruption indicators. Although started in 1994, this transaction is still continuing. In order to examine the H2 hypothesis in the Czech environment, three analytical models has been developed. The first model (the Arena-Actors-Agenda model) focused upon structure of actors, their agenda and mutual interactions within the arena of determination of military needs. The second model (the arena model of life-cycle of social problem of armed forces modernisation within NATO) presented the vitality of the question of 2-pct-GDP commitment allotted to defence and military power in seven hierarchical arenas. The last model focused upon organization of corrupt transactions by iron triangle. Such transactions comprise overpricing, surplus of military materiel, enforcing of dependency on suppliers, protraction of development projects, etc. In order to present the problem in a scientific way, author employs statistics, in particular, time series analysis. Besides, a deal of polls on corruption topic as social problems in the

Czech society is presented and confronted with the position of the Ministry of Defence obtained by correspondence with the ministry in accord with law on free access to information in the public sector. This approach might be considered as a part of ethnomethodology. As a former carrier soldier and ministerial clerk, author puts into service his fund of unclassified internal documents collected during his carrier. Moreover, behaviour of actors is documented by wide quotations from public sources accessible on World Wide Web as well as from the ministerial magazine A-report. Regarding suggestions on controlling the corruption in acquisition of military materiel, author does not provide any suggestion on tackling the systemic corruption at the Ministry of Defence.