

Diploma thesis aims to present different conceptions of legal consciousness, to highlight their historical and socio-cultural contexts and to outline their possible progress in selected directions. First chapter presents several textbook definitions of legal consciousness, including a comparison of “European” and “American” conceptions. Chapter 2 introduces and compares other expressions usually used in connection with legal consciousness – sometimes as synonyms, sometimes emphasizing some of its components or specific author’s approach. Chapter 3 then accentuates historical dimension of legal consciousness, with examples of its ideological conceptions “with attributes” (socialist, revolutionary, popular legal consciousness).

These three chapters constitute descriptive, overviewing part; possible synthesis is then concluded in Chapter 4. At first, it identifies three “inner” dimensions which arise from presented conceptual field and which need to be clarified if we want to talk about legal consciousness with sufficient precision: which component we focus on, which part of law and whose legal consciousness are concerned. After that we distinguish three kinds of discourse, that is, how the legal consciousness is talked about: lawyers, sociologists and educators or “users of law” approach it with different intentions and assumptions.

Finally, last three chapters extend this synthesis in certain aspects and they propose, in essayistic rather than systematic way, possible further considerations about legal consciousness. In Chapter 5, based on Fuller’s *The Morality of Law*, we demonstrate on examples from domestic law how to consider legal consciousness in law making. On the contrary, Chapter 6 outlines a limited scope of legal consciousness related to other normative sources: in that way we distinguish moral and law dimensions of norms. Finally, in Chapter 7 we warn against equating morality and law and attach few remarks how to project the previous considerations into cultivation of legal consciousness.