

Abstract

The diploma thesis deals with regional protection of freedom of expression with focus on the media. The aim of the thesis is to carry out a comparative analysis of the relevant regional documents concerning human rights protection and particularly of the selected case-law of the European Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights regarding freedom of expression of the media. I will find out where the differences or, on the other hand, the similarities of the courts' approaches to a different topics are.

The thesis is divided into three parts. The first, introductory part deals with the theoretical grounding of the media and the issue of media freedom of expression from the perspective of historical development and international law. The second part focuses on protection of the freedom of expression of the media within two regional systems of human rights protection: the European and the Inter-American systems. With the help of Czech and foreign reference literature, both regional human rights protection systems are presented in separate subchapters, focusing at first on the procedural aspect – on the questions of who can claim the protection, from which authority and in what way; and whether a journalist himself, or perhaps a media owner, who believes their right to freedom of expression has been violated can do so. Then, the attention is paid to regional human rights documents and their provisions dealing with freedom of expression in relation to the media. The last subchapter of the second part then compares the two systems.

Finally, the third part contains a comparative analysis of selected judgments of the European Court of Human Rights on the one hand, and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on the other hand. The case-law is divided into individual subchapters on the basis of 14 sub-themes concerning the freedom of expression of the media. There is a comparison of the approach of the two regional courts made in these subchapters. The last subchapter no. 3.15 summarizes the findings. And in the conclusion of the thesis I focus on the overall synthesis of the most important information obtained from all the previous parts.