

National parks in the Czech Republic and their legal regulation

Abstract

The subject of this master theses are national parks in the Czech Republic and their legal regulation. The main legal document that regulates the issue of national parks in our country, is the Act No. 114/1992 Coll., On Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended. This Act has been significantly amended and its wording has been in force since 2017. For the most part, this new regulation affected especially national parks that represent the most important and strictly protected areas in the Czech Republic. Although, in practice the amendment has not yet been fully reflected, as some institutes are still in the process of negotiation or approval.

The aim of this thesis is therefore by means of methods of description, analysis and comparison comprehensively summarize regulation of the existing national parks and at the same time in the light of the previous legislation to compare it and analyze. Subsequently, critically evaluate the extent to which the Czech legislator has managed to create an effective legal regulation responding to the current needs of nature protection. At the same time, the thesis also aimed to compare the legal regulation of national parks with a foreign state, specifically Slovakia.

This thesis is divided into six chapters, the first of which deals with the general interpretation of the term “*national park*” and its development within the historical-social context, and also introduces the individual Czech national parks that exist in our country. In the next chapters the work deals with the international and European environment, which indirectly affect the issue of national parks in the Czech Republic and their forming. The main and most detailed part of this work is the fourth chapter, which very specifically analyzes individual legal institutes and tools that law introduces in relation to the issue of national parks. The whole process of adopting and approving the amendment to the Act is also discussed in detail. In the very conclusion of the thesis, the last fifth chapter, the legal regulation of Slovak national parks is compared with those existing in the Czech Republic, even in the context of the upcoming significant amendment to the Slovak law, which comes into effect at the beginning of year 2020.