The dissertation thesis examines the system of state regulated policing of prostitution based on police control and medical examination of prostitutes that originated in France at the turn of the 19th century and provided subsequently in the second half of the 19th century an inspiration for other European countries. Great Britain approached the French system of the so called reglementation of prostitution during the 1860s when the state regulation of prostitution was applied in several British garrison towns and ports. Afterwards in 1880s Great Britain applied the system of reglementation of prostitution also in occupied Egypt. The thesis traces the system of state regulation of prostitution from its birth in France, through its application in Great Britain and examines its progress to the final implementation in Egypt. It also portrays the atmosphere in the society that accompanied the application of reglementation in the above mentioned countries.

The first chapter examines the birth of the state regulated prostitution in France and follows its progress through the 19th century till the time when reglementation started to be challenged by an intensified antiregulationist campaign. The second chapter deals with the application of the French system on the British soil that stirred up the growing feminist movement calling for abolition of the regulatory system and for the elimination of women's isolation. Although the reglementation was abolished in Great Britain due to the harsh criticism as early as in 1880s, no similar opposition could emerge and form a powerful resistance movement in occupied Egypt at that time. The third and last chapter explores the application of reglementation of prostitution in occupied Egypt and examines the Egyptian abolitionist campaign that took a different course than in Great Britain. Unlike the British feminists who were fighting against the lack of legal rights granted to women and against the confinement of prostitutes behind the walls of brothels, the campaign against the state regulated prostitution in Egypt was headed by nationalist and religious authorities. The abolitionist campaign in Egypt was thus lead under more moralistic and antibritish slogans and grew stronger especially in the 1920s along with the growing nationalist movement.