

# **Intelligence services and control of their activities in the Czech Republic**

## **Abstract**

The main focus of this thesis is the control of intelligence services in the Czech Republic. The first two chapters define the basic terminology and theory of intelligence services. The third chapter deals briefly with the historical context and development of intelligence services in the Czech Republic. In the fourth chapter, the thesis describes the powers and activities of intelligence services. And the most extensive fifth chapter, which follows, is focused on the control of activities of intelligence services of the Czech Republic. The control of intelligence services is, in general, difficult to implement, it often requires compromises due to the specifics of properties of intelligence services and because of the existence of several conflicts of interests of the involved parties. Probably the most significant conflict of interest is between transparency, information rights and protection of fundamental rights and freedom of individuals on the one hand and providing of the highest possible level of professionalism and efficiency of intelligence services, on the other hand. It can be stated that in the past there used to be, and there still remains, some space for improvement in the area of control over the activities of the intelligence services of the Czech Republic as well as in their own cooperation and also in the collaboration with other relevant bodies of the security system in the Czech Republic. Therefore, in its fifth chapter, the thesis focuses mainly on the emerging control bodies, which could have the potential to make the control mechanism and cooperation of elements of the security system of the Czech Republic more efficient.

## **Key words**

intelligence – powers of the intelligence services of the Czech Republic – external and internal control of intelligence services of the Czech Republic

