

## **Social security legislation in times of first Czechoslovak republic and its contribution for the present time**

The object of this diploma thesis is to inform the reader about development of social legislation in time of the first Czechoslovak Republic and present author's views on contribution of this legislation to present time.

The first Czechoslovak Republic was founded after First World War at October 28<sup>th</sup> 1918. The legislation of this republic was taken from Austria – Hungary monarchy and so was the social legislation. Part of these laws was taken over and then was amended and the other part was newly created but based on previous legislation. According to this fact the very beginning of the thesis discusses social security and organizational structure of social administration in Austria – Hungary, which began to form in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The next chapter deals with laws govern unemployment benefits. After the establishment of the Czechoslovak republic there was the unemployment benefits direct from the state, but in 1925 different law came into force. It was insurance system well known as ghent system. This system meant that unemployment benefits were provided by trade unions only to their unemployed members and in accordance with law state provided financial contributions to these unemployment benefits.

Other exceptional law was the law that enacted eight – hour working time, which makes Czechoslovakia the first state in the whole world with such legislation. The law regulated also obligatory daily and weekly work breaks, night work and overtime work.

The remaining chapters are devoted to legislation of social welfare, which in time of first Czechoslovak republic included care of war invalids, underclass care (care for the poor) and social care for young people and to legislation of other part of social security - social insurance. The system of compulsory social insurance was hierarchical in these times. In prewar Czechoslovakia were gradually created insurance for employees in case of illness, disability and old - age, health insurance for public servants, Miners insurance, retirement insurance, accident insurance for employees and insurance for self – employed persons. However the law that regulated insurance for self – employed persons has never been effective. The thesis deals with this law because from the author's point of view this law is important and has partial impact on current legislation. The thesis is concluded with focus on author's views on contribution of this legislation to the present time as mentioned above.