

Summary

Crime Related to Substance Abuse

The topic of my thesis is Crime Related to Substance Abuse which is focused on drug-related crime. The main aim of this work is to explain drug problematic in penal law consequences to the reader.

First Chapter introduces the reader to drug problematic and drug addiction issue including drug crimes, defining health, social, psychological and economic risks and dangers which may be caused by drugs. The drug crimes are divided into few basic categories because of different rational motives why those crimes are committed. Then, several essential terms connected to drug abuse are explained.

Second Chapter deals with classifying drugs into several categories and analyzing their different characteristics.

Third Chapter concerns with international cooperation, including its history and current international law treaty's on drugs passed within the United Nations. Three essentials applicable and effective treaties are following: Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961), Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971) and United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988). They involve international regulation and control of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The Czech Republic acceded and signed all of them. Theirs reflection is understandable part of Czech Pena Law, thus Czech Penal Code. Provisions of European Law are mentioned.

Chapter Four summarizes historical trends of the drug abuse law in the Czech Republic and concerns with current regulations in force and focuses on drug offences according to Act No. 140/1961 Coll., Penal Code. The author discusses illicit manufacture and possession of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and poisons, including possession of drugs for personal use and takes on the opportunity of wide range of judicial decisions to explain relevant provisions of law.

Chapter Five deals with alternative sanctions which may be imposed on drug users.

Sixth Chapter describes modification of drug abuse law due to new Penal Code effective from 2010; Act No. 40/2009 Coll., Penal Code. This law divides drugs into two categories: soft drugs which are believed to be non-addictive and less damaging than 'hard' drugs. 'Soft' drugs involve the cannabis substance type.

The aim of seventh Chapter is to compare the Czech drug abuse law to the Slovak penal code. I found both of them as very similar with no significant differences.

Conclusions are drawn in the Eight Chapter. Author gives a summary of the thesis, comments on general drug problems and tries to find certain solutions on that.