

## **Internet business transactions with an international element**

The purpose of this thesis is to analyse particular issues arising out of cross-border business transactions conducted over the internet from perspective of private international law. It is mainly focused on the law applicable to contractual obligations in such transactions. The thesis consists of introduction, five chapters and conclusion.

First chapter explains the concept of internet business transactions, describes different kinds of them and most importantly, shifts the focus from the traditional description of technical aspects of internet functioning to concept of internet governance, its reasons and different opinions on the need of rules designed for internet.

Chapter Two begins with the definition of an international element. That is followed by characterizing the two basic methods used for regulation of the contractual relationships in private international law.

Chapter Three is concerned with the rules of European private international law. It is divided into three subchapters, which are related to regulations Rome I, Rome II and the Directive 2000/31 on e-commerce respectively.

Fourth chapter is the core part of this thesis and deals with the Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts. Although not in the force yet, it might become, together with Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, the comprehensive tool for resolving the issues arising out of international business transactions. Meanwhile it can serve as a ground for discussion on a future development of the regulation in this area of international law.

The last chapter refers to issues of consumer protection in respect of consumer contracts concluded online. It serves as a complementary part to the previous chapter, since the consumer contracts are excluded out of the scope of both Conventions.

The main aim of the thesis was to provide closer look on the chosen aspects of internet trading, which has become more and more popular over the last few years and is expected to grow rapidly worldwide. This growth may be supported by high-quality, clear and concise legislation removing legal obstacles and consequently establishing legal certainty. That is the reason why the core part of this thesis is focused on the above-mentioned Convention and suggests it will become another important source of internationally binding rules.