

Abstract

The issue of criminal recidivism represents a significant social problem. The aim of this thesis is to analyze the problematics of criminal recidivism, gather available information related to this topic, evaluate current measures used to counter recidivism and propose possible ways of increasing their efficiency.

The thesis consists of five main chapters, which are divided into smaller subchapters. Chapters are focused on different aspects of criminal recidivism.

The initial foreword is followed by the first chapter, which is focused on different perceptions of the term „recidivism“. Subchapter describes dealing with recidivism in terms of its recourse (nebo sanctioning) within the Czech legal system.

The second chapter reflects the current state of recidivism in the Czech Republic. It shows that the statistics concerning recidivism within the whole concept of criminality differ in judicial, police and prison statistics according to different perceptions of this term.

The third chapter summarizes the causes of criminal activity. It is divided into two subchapters. The first part looks at the „outer“ causes of recidivism. As a specific cause it refers to imprisonment, which is analyzed to higher extent. The second part presents the recidivist's personality and its role in committing illegal activities.

The fourth chapter focuses on the issue of criminal career. It describes the development of criminal career, presents different types of criminal paths and shows the importance of knowing the criminal path of each individual in order to predict the direction of his acts.

The fifth chapter concerns the question of controlling recidivism. It is divided into two subchapters. First part looks at the issue of preventing recidivism. Furthermore, it evaluates different preventive measures and proposes ways of increasing the efficiency of the fight against recidivism, while paying special attention to postpenitentiary care. Second subchapter focuses on criminal sanctions and their importance for the recidivism control. It further studies imprisonment, protective in-patient treatment and involuntary detention.

The last chapter summarizes the gathered information. It emphasizes especially the necessity of individual approach to the treatment of offenders who commit criminal acts repeatedly, and proposes suitable preventive measures for the given type of recidivist. The

fight with recidivism is considered to be a necessary step for decreasing the total rate of criminality and this chapter encourages paying attention to problematics of criminal recidivism.