

Abstract

This thesis deals with the analysis of the concept of sustainable development. The main objective is to obtain a comprehensive picture of how the principle of sustainable development works and its content. The thesis is divided into three chapters; in the first is introduced the concept of sustainable development and its historical development. The thesis then deals with an institute of legal principle in the law in general, with the character of legal principles, their function and purpose. The third chapter analyses sustainable development as a legal principle in European Law and in the sphere of environmental legal framework of the Czech Republic and its environmental protection tools. Finally the thesis deals with the legal enforcement of sustainable development as a legal principle in the Czech legal system. From historical development it is evident that the importance of environmental protection is increasing. The principle of sustainable development stated in the legal Acts *expressis verbis* appropriately demonstrates this fact. However, in the case of legal enforcement it is necessary to focus on the individual institutes of the principle of sustainable development, due, in particular, to its great abstractness, the legal principle of sustainable development is not directly legally enforceable other than mainly through the tools of environmental protection