

## **Abstract**

The thesis deals with the right of an accused to counsel as a whole. Further it is aimed at the topical matters of the criminal trial and some contentious moments of the realisation of the rights of an accused. The thesis issues from the European guarantee of the right to counsel and subsequently from the constitutionally guaranteed rights of an accused which result from the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Then the thesis deals with the individual partial rights to counsel, while it is systematically structured to the physical defence, i.e. the right of an accused to serve as one's own counsel, and to the formal defence, i.e. the right to choose counsels and to consult them. The thesis also includes the survey of judicial decisions, especially concerning contentious issues of the interpretation of particular rules. The thesis does not omit the discretion *de lege ferenda* to current legal regulation as well.