

Summary

The thesis deals with certain aspects of corruption and its prevention. It focuses mainly on whistleblowing as an instrument of corruption control. The thesis is structured into an introduction, three chapters and conclusion.

The first chapter contains a general introduction to the corruption issue. With the aid of several historical examples of corruption cases in various social systems, I attempt to emphasize the complexity and ubiquity of this phenomenon. Further on, the chapter is concerned with clarifying the notion of corruption as well as other key concepts, such as bribery, lobbying etc.

The second chapter provides an overview of Czech substantive anti-corruption criminal law with special focus on bribery offences incorporated in Sections 331 to 333 of the Czech Criminal Code. Two excursions are made within this chapter. The first covers the topic of gift acceptance by civil servants based on the new Czech Civil Service Act as well as the potentially corruptive effect of such practice, if allowed even to a limited extent. The second excursion discusses the fundamental differences between lobbying and the criminal offence of indirect bribery according to Section 333 of the Czech Criminal Code. This topic is highly relevant as these two concepts are frequently confused in practice, which is greatly caused by the lack of lobbying legislation.

The third chapter focuses on whistleblowing and related issues. The goal of this chapter is to provide a complex overview of the regulation of whistleblowing and whistleblower protection as the Czech legislation is not quite systematic in this respect. The first two sub-chapters describe the notion of whistleblowing and whistleblower and provide an enumeration of Czech laws related to whistleblowing. The third sub-chapter covers the most important international documents granting protection to whistleblowers. Further on, the sub-chapter focuses on the case of *Guja v. Moldova* before the European Court of Human Rights, which became a leading case in assessing claims of whistleblowers for protection according to Section 10 of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. The fourth sub-chapter

describes some specifics of whistleblower legislation in a selected number of foreign countries which could serve as an inspiration for prospective amendments of the Czech legislative framework for whistleblowing. The final sub-chapter is dedicated to searching for optimal ways of this modification.

The conclusion summarizes the key points covered by the thesis.