

## **Abstract**

The purpose of this thesis is to look at economic and legal aspects of foreign direct investment (hereinafter also referred to as FDI) on the example of Egypt, which is one of the key economic and political players in the Middle East and North Africa. The paper is composed of two parts. First part is dealing with the theoretical aspects of FDI. Chapter one is introductory and explains the nature and role of FDI in global economy. Next two chapters address the important issue of definition of investment and investor. The legal definition of these two terms is usually the key issue in the international documents concerning foreign direct investment. Fourth chapter deals with the bilateral investment treaties, which are so far the most relevant instrument governing the international investment. Chapter five deals with the unsuccessful attempts to establish universal international treaty concerning investment, influence of the Lisbon treaty on given issue and international organizations in the field of international investment. Chapter six concentrates on the issue of investment treatment standards. Seventh chapter investigates the most common causes of investment disputes and eighth chapter suggests possible means of their resolution.

Second practical part deals more closely with factual Egyptian examples. Ninth chapter looks at Egyptian investment environment. The chapter concentrates on the influence of political turbulences on the FDI in Egypt and focuses on Egyptian economy including its present problems. The last tenth chapter deals solely with the investment in Egypt and its legislation. The chapter firstly introduces the positives and negatives of investment in Egypt and warns against possible risks. Then offers the most interesting sectors of Egyptian economy for investment. And in its last two parts analyses Egyptian investment law and the system of special economic zones.

The practical outcome of this work is analysis of Egyptian legislature concerning international investment and description of its investment environment in general. The thesis can also serve as possible recommendation for Czech and other businessmen intending to invest in Egypt.