

Abstract

This thesis studies the impact of Václav Klaus's 2013 pardon on crime in the Czech Republic. The analysis is based on examining a one-time exogenous shock in data on crime and incarceration from 2010 to 2015. The main instruments of the analysis are the elasticity of crime with respect to imprisonment and the incapacitation effect, which is determined in both static and dynamic ways. This helps inspect a progress of relationship between crime and incarceration rate in a longer period after declaration of the pardon. The incapacitation effect, which is the number of criminal offences not committed in one year due to one person being incarcerated, was lower immediately after the pardon, but it sharply increased in the course of six months after the pardon. Nevertheless, it started to decrease afterwards. The hypothesis about increase of crime was confirmed as well. Especially the number of thefts, burglaries and violent crimes rose in the period after the pardon. The pardon caused an increase in crime. In the view of this fact more people are incarcerated in Czech prisons and the incarceration and crime rate started to return to the level before the pardon in a few months.