

Abstract

The thesis deals with the right of defense in criminal proceedings in the Czech Republic. The thesis is divided into several chapters defining the legal rights of the defense at national and international level. The thesis deals with the historical development of the right of defense in the first chapter, defining certain differences of the former legal regulations up to the present. In the next part of the thesis, the institute of the right of defense is analyzed in terms of international and national legislation, including regulation at European Union level. The third chapter deals with the position of the accused, what the denomination carries in the various stages of the criminal proceedings, and what are his individual rights of defense, including material and formal defense. The third chapter follows the chapter analyzing the position of a lawyer in criminal proceedings. It focuses on its historical development, attorney's substitution, advocate's rights and duties, and individual ways of choosing a lawyer, including the necessary defense institute. The fifth chapter deals with a separate group of persons to whom statutory defense rights belong. Finally, the legal framework for the right of defense, including the *de lege ferenda*, is reviewed. The thesis also includes the case law of the European Court of Human Rights, the Court of Justice of the European Union, the Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court of the Czech Republic.