

The subject of this thesis is Czech humanitarian assistance provided to the regions of South-East Asia hit by the tsunami on December 26th, 2004. The thesis is aimed at the humanitarian aid provided to Sri Lanka. The thesis is composed as a case study using the methods of expert investigation, semi-standardised interviews with participants and document analysis. The introduction contains the theoretical grasp of humanitarian assistance, its definition, classification, theories and legislative framework. One of the introductory subchapters deals with the topic of humanitarian assistance as a part of the public policy, definition of key participants, interests and sectors in which the participants play their roles is provided. The main part of the thesis - the particular analysis of tsunami humanitarian assistance - is oriented at three spheres. The first one is the official assistance provided by the Czech Republic from the state budget. The second sphere is formed by the activities of NGOs financed mainly from the public collections. Activities of individuals who provided assistance in the form of their own projects were also included. The third part concentrates on these activities. This segmentation takes into consideration the differences between the public, private and civil sectors which are markedly reflected in the field of humanitarian assistance. Separate subchapters deal with the public and civil sectors, the private sector issues penetrate into the other ones, which is given by the specific role of this sector in the humanitarian activities. The thesis evaluates Czech humanitarian assistance from the point of view of effectiveness as well as time, financial and organisational efficiency. It also examines the compliance with the rules and principles of the relevant international organisations. Recommendations for higher effectiveness and efficiency in the weak points revealed by the analysis are provided in the conclusion.