

THE TITLE OF THE DIPLOMA THESIS AND ABSTRACT

TITLE:

The Legislation Governing Energy Efficiency in the European Union

ABSTRACT:

The European Union's energy policy has undergone a major transformation over the last few years. The interest in ensuring sustainability, self-sufficiency, competitiveness and secure energy supplies leads to deeper energy integration among Member States. High energy efficiency is an ideal tool for achieving these particular objectives because its basic principle is to provide more services while using the same or even less energy. As a result, a variety of conceptual instruments and relevant legislation have been revised over the last few years, which was accompanied by a conflict of interest between various stakeholders and the adoption of less than ideal compromise solutions. This diploma thesis aims to evaluate the current legislation on energy efficiency in the European Union, including its development. The thesis is divided into three parts, the first of which represents the initial theoretical basis that aims to define the basic concepts and indicators of energy efficiency. The second part deals with the strong link between environmental protection and energy efficiency while emphasizing the importance of fundamental environmental principles that are reflected in the respective legislation. In the third part, the thesis focuses on the European Union's legislation itself. The first chapter of this part provides a comprehensive and structured overview of conceptual instruments; This allows us to identify the shift in the European Union priorities and the initial motives for the current form of the respective legislation. The chapter is followed by chapters on primary and secondary law. With regard to the secondary legislation, the greatest attention is paid to Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency and Directive 2010/31/EU on the energy performance of buildings. Subsequently, the provisions governing the ecodesign and energy labelling framework are analysed, as well as the Industrial Emissions Directive. In order to illustrate the real practical implications of selected acts and to introduce means to enforce the obligations imposed on Member States, the last chapter of the third part contains an overview of the relevant proceedings before the Court of Justice of the European Union.

KEY WORDS:

Energy efficiency, energy performance of buildings, ecodesign, energy union