

Abstract

Background: Current drug policy seek to have a balanced approach, but the supply of drugs has no potential to significantly influence, as well as the quality of drugs on the black market. Drug legalization could be one of the most effective harm reduction tools and could help to reduce the negative effects of drug prohibition.

Aim: The aim of the thesis is to describe the current drug control regimes and their treatment and to group the arguments supporting or not supporting the effectiveness of the given drug measures and especially drug legalisation. The aim of the research is to map the trends of thinking about drug legalization and other possibilities of their regulation among Czech drug policy makers and other stakeholders involved in its form. The sub-research questions present the opinions of the respondents on other related topics and they are defined by the uniformity of the terminological interpretation of the important terms.

Methods: Qualitative methods were used for the research, namely a semi-structured interview conducted with seven representatives of the current form of Czech drug measures presenting the spectrum of Czech drug policy. For data analysis, the method of clustering and the plain enumeration method were used.

Results: The analysis of the data revealed a disagreement between respondents who were addressed as representatives of the pillar of repression and other respondents who participated in the research as representatives of the rest of the pillars. The repressive component showed a rather conservative approach, it presented its concerns about increased availability of drugs and other negative impacts from it. Other respondents tend to liberalize drug measures in the form of legalizing marijuana by referring to the freedom of adults and the experience of foreign countries. None of the respondents agreed with the legalization of other substances, although there were appeals for decriminalization and the need to extend substitution care. For psychedelics and new synthetic drugs, no specific solution has been named, although most respondents agreed, that their categorization is not relevant.

Key words: Legalisation, decriminalisation, drug policy, harm reduction, future