

Comparison of the legal regulation of citizenship of the Czech Republic and Ukraine during the period of independent states

Abstract

The aim of this thesis is to take a closer look at the phenomenon of state citizenship through the prism of the state-citizenship regulation of two young states with different legal continuity and history. Namely, the Czech Republic and Ukraine. State citizenship is a dynamic concept undergoing transformation simultaneously within human society and its values in general and legal culture in particular. The transformation of this phenomenon can be generalized on the dichotomous scale of "state power – individual", when in the context of, among other things, international law and specifically human rights doctrine, the concept of citizenship in most states is increasingly approaching the pole of *individual*; when it ceases to be the sovereign domain of state discretion and unlimited state power but begins to be seen as a human right or even a free choice of the individual. The main objective of this thesis was to determine whether the two countries of study have also approached this concept with their state-citizenship arrangements, and to determine to what extent the current Czech and Ukrainian citizenship legislation is shaped, or influenced, by previous legal arrangements in force on the territory of both countries in different time periods.

The conclusion of the thesis is that both relatively young states have made great steps during their 30 years of existence towards the perception of state citizenship as an indicator of the real integration of a person in a given society, which should confirm, not predetermine and condition the integration. In doing so, they have also demonstrated the discontinuity and originality of their state-citizenship regulation and its flexibility in the face of geopolitical constellations and challenges. It was marginally elaborated why, among other things, this flexibility is necessary today. De lege ferenda suggestions were added.

Key words: citizenship, constitutional law, human rights