

## **Abstract**

The thesis focused on the problematics of child pornography in criminal law. Its goal was to describe the relevant legal regulations concerning child pornography in the Czech Republic and subsequently compare them with the legal framework of the United States. The thesis aimed to highlight problematic aspects in the current context that lawmakers should address in potential amendments. Specific modifications to the current Czech legal framework were also detailed in the text.

The structure of the thesis includes an introduction, six chapters further divided into sub-chapters, and a conclusion. Given the thesis's topic, the prevailing method is description, and in individual sections, optionally, the methods of analysis, comparison, and synthesis are used.

In the first chapter, the author focused on significant milestones in the historical development of pornography, ranging from ancient Roman mentions through the invention of the printing press to the emergence of the internet. However, the focus remained on pivotal moments of historical background, rather than an exhaustive history of child pornography.

The second chapter, the most extensive one, analyzed the legal regulation of child pornography. It comprised four sub-chapters, progressively presenting the most crucial aspects of international legal regulations, including documents from the United Nations, European legal regulations categorized under the Council of Europe and the European Union, and the specific legal regulation in the Czech Republic. The last sub-chapter covered the legal framework in the United States.

The third chapter introduced a comparison of the legal regulations in the Czech Republic and the United States. It delved into differences in the factual elements of individual criminal offenses, imposed penalties, and the systematic structure of both legal provisions.

The fourth chapter contemplated the definitions of the terms child, pornography, and child pornography, drawing on relevant literature and judicial decisions in the Czech context.

The penultimate fifth chapter addressed current problematic phenomena, examining both legal aspects, focusing on the term "person who appears to be a child," and contemporary threats such as social networks, artificial intelligence, virtual pornography, and more.

The final chapter discussed considerations *de lege ferenda*, exploring how the existing legal framework could be adjusted to better align with the rapidly evolving world of technology and possibilities.

**Key words:**

child pornography, criminal law, problematic aspects