

ABSTRACT

Whistleblowers play a key role in highlighting corruption and other illegal activities in both the private and public sectors, hence it is important to grant them appropriate legal protection. The present rigorous thesis provides a comprehensive analysis of the current legal framework for whistleblower protection in the Czech Republic, which reflects obligations under European Union and international law.

The introductory section presents the theoretical aspects of whistleblowing, including the history, definitions and characteristics of the concept. It also describes the subjects of whistleblowing and explains the differences between internal and external whistleblowing. The author does not neglect the related European and international aspects of whistleblower protection, with an emphasis on key decisions of the European Court of Human Rights and the Directive (EU) 2019/1937 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2019 on the protection of persons reporting breaches of Union law. Attention is also paid to the partial regulation in individual branches of law and legislative attempts to adopt comprehensive legislation in this area. The main part of the thesis deals with the legislation currently in effect in the Czech Republic, namely Act No. 171/2023 Sb. The author focuses on the analysis of the notion of a whistleblower, their protection against retaliation and the possibilities of the whistleblower in reporting breaches. The thesis contains not only a description of the current legal situation, but also an assessment of the present legislation and *de lege ferenda* considerations that could be implemented in order to improve the protection of whistleblowers.