

# **Ownership, possession and carrying of firearms in the Czech Republic**

## **Abstract**

This thesis deals with ownership, possession and carrying of firearms by a private person. The thesis is divided into three main chapters for a better understanding of problematics and application of the historical knowledge and experiences for current legal regulation. The historical part is divided chronologically according to the particular legislation adjusting with the handling firearms (from 1510 till 2001). The second chapter is divided into four subchapters. The first devotes to analysis of the ownership, possession and carrying of firearms terms. The second subchapter defines individual conditions for obtaining gun license. The final part of the second subchapter incorporates the problematic of gun pass obtaining process and the gun registration process during the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. The third subchapter explains the conditions of gaining the weapon owner's license. The fourth subchapter accomplishes the analysis of Act No. 14/2021 Coll., about handling with the weapons in cases which affect the internal order or security of the Czech Republic (also called superstructural act) and its impact on the ownership, possession and carrying of firearms for a private person. Among the thesis goals are the better and accurate definition of ownership, possession and carrying of firearms in comparison with the definition in Act No. 119/2002 Coll., Firearms Act. Related goal is to specify and analyse the individual conditions for obtaining gun licence and weapon owner's license. Every single condition for obtaining the gun licence uses comparison with the legal regulations of Slovak Republic and Federal Republic of Germany. These neighbouring countries have been selected for comparing their approach to the ownership, possession and carrying of firearms and for the impact on public security and lives and health of people. For this reason, thesis contains the statistics regarding the number of the committed crimes with firearms, especially in the case of health capacity and its impact on potential committing of a crime with legally possessed firearm. Before the amendment of the Firearms Act by the Act No. 13/2021 Coll., some public circles expressed that the implementation of the Directive 2017/853 of the European Parliament and Council of May 2017 amending Council Directive 91/477/EEC on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons will cause strong restriction of the private persons to possess and carry firearms. The thesis evaluates amendment of the Firearms Act by the Act No. 13/2021 Coll., and the impact of the amendment on the private persons. The last chapter is a summary of the gained knowledge and its application for the future legal regulation.

**Keywords:**

Firearms Act, ownership, possession and carrying of firearms, conditions for obtaining gun license.