

Abstract

Background: In recent decades, there have been changes in the regulation of recreational cannabis. The Czech Republic and Spain have different historical, cultural and political contexts that influence their current legislation and law enforcement. Both countries have obligations towards international conventions. However, their approaches to regulation differ, resulting in different regulatory models and ways of implementing them in practice. Furthermore, planned legislative changes in both countries indicate a shift in their regulatory approaches.

Objectives: The aim of this study is to compare and analyse the historical and social factors influencing the development of policy and current legislative frameworks in these countries. A further aim is to describe the legal regulation of cannabis possession and use, with an emphasis on decriminalisation, regulation and enforcement. A sub-objective is to assess the possible evolution of the future shape of cannabis regulation in both countries.

Methods: The study will be a qualitative comparative study, focusing on content analysis. The research will analyse secondary data. The research will answer specific questions for each country in a case study format, comparing historical context, current legal framework, regulatory bodies, usage data, and political discourse.

Research Set: The research will analyse secondary data, which includes legal texts, government reports and legal databases available through official government, ministerial and European agency websites. Data will also include academic articles and publications from databases such as EBSCO, Scopus, Web of Science and Google Scholar.

Conclusion: A comparison between the Czech Republic and Spain revealed different approaches to cannabis regulation. The paper highlights the need to update cannabis regulation legislation to better reflect current realities and societal needs.

Key words: cannabis policy, drug policy, cannabis, legislation

