

Economic crime and its prevention

Abstract

The thesis deals with the issue of economic crime and the possibilities of its prevention. Economic crime is a specific and sophisticated type of crime, which is not part of general crime. It poses a serious threat to economic stability and the integrity of markets, and its effects are visible at the level of individuals, businesses and national economies. It is therefore important to look at this issue in more depth.

The main objective of the thesis is to contribute to the understanding of the concept of economic crime, which is not uniformly defined, including its similarity to property crime. To describe the historical development of economic crime and the transformation of its role in the legal system of the Czech Republic from 1989 to the current perception. Including a description of the personality of the perpetrator and his motivation, the definition of the facts of individual economic crimes and the course of the investigation. Finally, the sanctioning of perpetrators and a description of the various preventive strategies, including the proposal of specific measures leading to a reduction in the incidence of economic crimes.

The thesis is divided into seven chapters. In each chapter I try to discuss the essential features of economic crime so that in the very end the reader can perceive which crimes belong to it and what preventive methods should be adopted in the fight against economic crime.

The first chapter deals with the etymology of the concept of economic crime, including its comparison with property crime, with which it is often confusing.

The second chapter deals with a historical legal excursion from 1989 to the present. In this chapter I discuss the position of economic crime in the legal system of the Czech Republic. I mention the most famous cases of the 20th. and 21st. centuries and the frequent tunnelling of companies at that time.

The third chapter defines the different types of economic crimes (*de lege lata*), including those that do not belong to Title VI but are associated with economic crime.

In Chapter Four, I discuss the personality and motivation of the offender. I then turn my attention more thoroughly to legal entities as perpetrators.

The fifth chapter deals with the time-consuming investigation of individual economic crimes in general terms. I describe here the various critical factors that hinder the investigation and detection of economic crime.

The sixth chapter is devoted to sanctioning, which is a highly debated topic undergoing changes in connection with prevention.

In the seventh chapter I discuss the issue of preventive measures, which are not uniform for all crimes. The economic crime prevention model is much more layered than the prevention model successfully applied to general crime. Therefore, economic crime requires its own and often more sophisticated models of prevention. At the same time, I present new prevention practices that have the potential to combat economic crime.

The results of my work point to the need for a comprehensive approach that involves cooperation between state institutions, the private sector and international organizations. Emphasis is placed on raising general awareness, strengthening the legal framework and using modern technology to detect and prevent economic crime more effectively.

Keywords: Economic crime, prevention, economic offenders, economic crime offences, criminal liability of legal entities