

Legal measures to reduce harmful gambling

This thesis addresses the current legal regulation of gambling from the perspective of preventing its negative effects. The aim of the thesis is to present, describe, categorize, interpret, and critically assess the various institutes adopted or introduced by the Act No. 186/2016 Coll., on gambling, as well as other related regulations, primarily in relation to technical and live games, which are considered to have the most serious societal impacts. The general section of the thesis is dedicated to an introduction to the issue of gambling, including the definition of its basic undesirable effects, a brief summary of the development of legal regulation in our territory, the problems associated with the Act No. 202/1990 Coll., on Lotteries and Other Like Games, and the basic principles of the Gambling Act. In the special section, individual measures are examined in detail, divided into regulations that restrict the availability of gambling and their further impact on potential players, including the elimination of the possibility of operating slot machines and similar games in hospitality establishments, and measures aimed at the direct protection of vulnerable players. From the perspective of legal methodology, the thesis primarily employs comparative and teleological interpretation. The results of the thesis can be divided into several partial conclusions. Firstly, there can be no doubt that the Gambling Act represents an unprecedented advancement in terms of regulating the operation of gambling; even more so in relation to the protection of players and society from the negative effects of these games. Although the most recent amendment to the Gambling Act has removed most problematic provisions or clarified them, the law still contains some problematic or difficult-to-interpret institutes. Despite this, the effective regulation of gaming law, and specifically the Gambling Act itself, objectively remains one of the most well-crafted pieces of legislation within the legal subfield.

Keywords:

gambling, legal measures, negative effects