

# **Council of Czech Television: Considerations de lege lata and de lege ferenda**

## **Abstract**

The thesis focuses on the analysis of the composition of the Council of Czech Television within the context of the current legal framework. The topic is particularly relevant due to recent changes in the Council's composition and the broader public debate on the role of public service broadcasters. The thesis examines the historical development of dual television broadcasting and defines the theoretical concept of public service in the field of broadcasting. It further explores its current form and the tasks outlined in Act No. 483/1991 Coll., on Czech Television.

A key theme of the thesis is the process of appointing Council members and the issue of its independence, which is critically evaluated. Based on a comparative analysis with the German model of broadcasting councils, the thesis identifies weaknesses in the current legal framework, including excessive political influence on member nominations. It proposes de lege ferenda solutions aimed at addressing these shortcomings and enhancing the plurality and transparency of the Council's composition process. The comparative section highlights the benefits of the German model, such as broader representation of civil society and clear rules for member selection. The de lege ferenda proposals include better specification of nominating entities and greater transparency in the selection process of Council members.

The aim of the thesis is to define the basic concepts of the issue, describe the development of the legal framework concerning the appointment of members to the Council of Czech Television, and compare the existing legal framework with that of foreign oversight bodies for public service broadcasters. It further seeks to identify shortcomings in the current legal framework and propose de lege ferenda solutions. The thesis concludes that the existing legal framework for the composition of the Czech Television Council has deficiencies that could be addressed through legislative amendments inspired by the German model of appointing oversight bodies. However, it does not recommend implementing the German model in its entirety.

**Keywords: Council of Czech Television, public service media, media oversight bodies**