

Summary

The purpose of my thesis titled “The Regulation of the Legal Profession in Czech Republic and in England and Wales” is to provide a brief comparative overview of legal profession and its regulation in Czech Republic and in England and Wales. I chose this topic not only as a reason of my personal interest but also due to the importance of legal profession in a democratic society. Legal profession represents one of the key guarantees of justice alongside with the judiciary. In order to ensure justice, it is essential to keep the legal profession independent.

In the first chapters, I discussed the definition of legal profession and its history, which had a significant impact on its evolvement in both countries. I also examined the organization and regulation of the legal profession in chosen countries covering briefly the powers of the regulative and representative bodies.

Subsequently, I dedicated a chapter to legal services and their providing. Within this chapter, I discussed issues relating to the main principles that apply to providing legal services and to requirements for a successful qualification as a lawyer. Moreover, I examined the various forms of providing legal services such as self-employment or in a firm. I also discussed fees, ethics, client-lawyer relationship, and advertising as essential parts of the legal profession. A subchapter is dedicated to rights and duties of lawyers while providing legal services and another one deals with the liability of lawyers.

Finally, in the last chapter I described the legal aid systems in both countries as it is a duty of each democratic country to ensure that everyone has an equal access to justice free from obstacles. Such right is guaranteed not only on the national level but it is also expressed in various international documents such as The European Convention or the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Logically, both countries have their own systems of how legal services are provided by lawyers. We can, however, find similarities and this should provide us with the desire to look at foreign jurisdictions with inspiration.