

Survivors' pensions

In my thesis I concerned myself with the issue of survivors' pensions, because it is a topic, which is topical at all times and it can affect anyone of us. My aim was to present a comprehensive overview, this is why I tried to handle the topic not only in terms of the current legal regulations, but also to describe the historical development of survivors' pensions, and to point out the changes, that have already been carried out in relation to the pension reform and which are planned for the future.

The first chapter is devoted to the historical development of the survivors' benefits from the period of the First Czechoslovak Republic to the 1990s. I mentioned all the important laws and how the listing of the provided survivors' pensions and the conditions which entitle a person to the pension changed over the years.

In the next chapter I name the current sources of law concerning the pension insurance, especially three main legal acts, from which I mostly derived the information while writing this thesis, but also the constitutional basis, significant international treaties concerning pensions and the sources of the European Union law.

In the third chapter I concerned myself with the explanation of the terms, which often appear in the following chapters of my thesis, because they are included in the conditions which entitle a person to the pension. Therefore, to perceive their exact meaning is necessary in order to understand the following parts of the thesis. Although some of these terms look elementary at first sight, their meaning in law is often different from the general notions about them.

The fourth and fifth chapter form the core of my thesis, I describe the law regulation of the individual survivors' pensions, namely the widow, widower and orphan pension. I especially define the conditions of entitlement to the pensions and the continuation of entitlement, and under which circumstances the entitlement ceases.

Chapter six deals with the provisions which are common to all types of pensions. I describe, at which moment the entitlement to the pension and the entitlement to the payment of the pension arises, which way and under which conditions the paid-out pensions are increased, I also concern myself with the issue of the entitlement to several pensions and the way of the pension payment.

The seventh chapter is devoted to the proceedings in matters of pension insurance, especially the initiation of the proceedings, periods and ways of decisions

about the applications and finally the objection proceedings.

The next chapter is concerned with a topic, which is discussed very often nowadays. I try to outline the prepared steps of the pension reform, especially the creation of the 2nd pillar of the pension system, and also to mention the changes, which have already been carried out in connection with the reform.

I found it interesting to compare the Czech and German law regulations of survivors' pensions in the ninth chapter, especially in terms of the entitled people and the conditions of entitlement, its continuation and end.

In the conclusion I tried to assess the process of writing the thesis and to present my ideas, including possible suggestions about changes, which could be made in the future.

KEYWORDS:

pension insurance

survivors' pensions

conditions of entitlement