

# **Asylum law in the Czech Republic**

## **Abstract**

The thesis deals with the regulation of granting international protection to refugees in the Czech Republic. Asylum law is regulated by both the Asylum Act and the Temporary Protection Act, and given the nature of international protection, which falls under the exclusive competence of the European Union, the EU regulation known collectively as the Common European Asylum System is also important. Finally, definitions based on international law, specifically the Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, are also crucial.

International protection is granted to persons who, for fear of persecution or cruel treatment, have fled their home countries, which are unable to provide them with protection, or can directly cause the persecution. In the Czech Republic, the international protection is granted as asylum, subsidiary, or temporary protection, the last of which is currently the most visible and relevant because of the large-scale refugee wave from Ukraine.

This thesis is divided into five chapters, with chapter one introducing the reader to the basic concepts of asylum law, including a brief description of its rich history. The second chapter lists and describes a relatively large number of relevant legislations. The third chapter aims to guide the reader through the process of obtaining asylum and subsidiary protection, including recommended procedures that are particularly important given the vulnerability of some people seeking international protection. Chapter four focuses on temporary protection, comparing it with international protection under the Asylum Act and outlining the basic procedural process. The fifth chapter then analyses the current unprecedented refugee situation caused by the war in Ukraine, it confronts the regulation of the Temporary Protection Act with the actual situation and provides a comprehensive account of the development of legislation that has had to respond urgently to the massive influx of refugees. The thesis also provides statistical data on the number of applicants for international protection to inform the reader about the extent of the use of international protection in the Czech Republic over the years.

The conclusion of the thesis summarises the possibilities for refugees who come to the Czech territory with the intention of obtaining protection, as well as emphasises the importance and relevance of asylum law and its regulation in the Czech Republic.