

Freedom of Thought in the 21st Century

Abstract

The subject of this thesis is the issue of freedom of thought in the context of the 21st century. In general, this work is based on the long-accepted premise of the factual limitlessness of thought and its freedom, to which it responds. It aims to draw attention to their vulnerability by mapping phenomena that have the potential to disprove the idea of the intangibility of thought. It is a reaction to the technological development of the last decades and its possible negative influence.

The thesis is divided into two parts, reflecting the two fundamental thematic blocks. The first one deals with a theoretical characterization of thought and its freedom, followed by a section describing various forms of influence on thought.

The first part is a theoretical introduction to the issue of thought and freedom of thought. First of all, the interdisciplinary concept of thought is defined. The public's current perception of freedom of thought is also mentioned in this section. The legal regulation of the right to freedom of thought is described not only within the Czech legal system, but also at the international level through human rights documents that hold significance for the Czech Republic.

The most important part of this thesis is the second part. It offers various forms of influence on thought and its freedom in the context of 21st century. This part of the work also includes a brief excursion into the history of the perception of thought and its freedom and related freedoms. The presented methods are divided into two fundamental thematic sections. They are divided based on whether their effect on thought is of physical nature or not. Attention is paid both to traditional influences in their modern form and to forms that are connected with the technological development of the 21st century.

Finally, in the last section the findings from the previous parts are summarized and are accompanied by the possible direction of the approach to thought, its freedom and the challenges that modern technology brings to its protection.