

Preface

Public economic law is a part of the legal system that includes standards whose subject is the state's influence on the economy, including the regulation of the state's behaviour towards business entities. It is the right of the state and its organs and apparatus to intervene in the economic sphere. It is an expression of the state's power in the economy and reflects the state's obligations such as determining the situation and legal position of entrepreneurs.

The law embraces legal relationships that occur between state bodies and business entities. The entities are not only the addressees of the state's activities but also their initiators, awaiting appropriate actions to be taken by state authorities. What is included in the area of these legal relationships are the competences of state organs, a mechanism (procedures) for taking decisions and expressing a specific attitude (e.g. by establishing standards) and the rights and obligations of business entities along with the conditions and forms of their implementation and guarantees of protection. The formation of the indicated legal relationships is usually carried out by means of methods and instruments of an administrative-legal character applicable in legal relationships, although it is not rare that solutions used in civil law are also adopted.

Public economic law regulates in particular: the organization and functioning of infrastructure sectors in the economy including energy, telecommunications and postal services, as well as medical services sector, rules and forms of competition protection, opportunities for granting and making use of public aid, environmental protection issues connected with economic activity and public procurement. These issues were elaborated on by authors from the Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia, who – from the perspective of the law of individual states – prepared in this study the characteristics of the indicated issues. It is worth, it seems, getting to know the discussions devoted to various national problems of public economic law, at the same time bearing in mind the fact that these are the regulations of the European Union that constitute the basis and starting point for them.

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