INSTITUTIONAL PRE-UNDERSTANDING IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE

DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

LUKÁŠ HLOUCH

Katedra právní teorie

Právnická fakulta Masarykovy univerzity v Brně

Recenzentka: Tatiana Machalová

Key words

administrative body, pre-understanding, decision-making process, preknowledge, directive

idea, interpretation, official interpretation, instructions, hard cases, legal hermeneutics.

Resumé

This article deals with a theoretical analysis of the subjective structures of legal

understanding in the administrative decision making process. Ideas forming the grounds of

this article are also the essential premises of author's doctoral thesis, the topic of which has

been "Theory and Reality of Legal Interpretation".

The article intends to introduce a close connection between legal hermeneutic and neo-

institutional theories and administrative theory of limits of administration in legal decision

making process. Preunderstanding, pre-knowledge and above all dependence of an

administrative body are presented as the crucial characteristics of administrative decision-

making. Ideas and conceptions of individual theoreticians are presented and creatively

analysed in the text. After a theoretical analysis, some practical examples of consequences of

these constructions working in interpret's mind are mentioned.

As a result, the ability of solving legal "hard cases" by administrative bodies is

critically considered. As another conclusion, the possibility of spreading an incorrect legal

conclusion throughout the system of administration in a certain resort is mentioned. The main

conclusion of the whole article is that the quality and characteristic features of administrative

decision making depends on the hermeneutic structures of pre-understanding and directive

ideas of administrative bodies.

Contact e-mail:

luke.hlouch@centrum.cz