

Criminal law and civil law

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Main distinctions

- Parties to the action
- Standards of proof
- Remedies and punishment



Criminal law

- Regulation of the relationship between state and individuals
- The party bringing action is **prosecution**, other party is **defendant**.

Criminal law

- Higher standards of proof
- Prove the guilt beyond reasonable doubt
- System of punishment- **fine, imprisonment, execution** etc.
- Criminal offences
 - Petty offence
 - Serious offence

Civil law

- Regulation of the relationship between individuals
- The party bringing action is **plaintiff**, other party is **defendant**

Civil law

- Prove the liable on the balance of probabilities
- System of remedies- **damages, specific performances** etc.
- Include the **law of contract, law of property, tort, family law**

Vocabulary

- **Remedy**- opravný prostředek, soudní opatření
- **Prosecution**- státní zastupitelství
- **Defendant**- obžalovaný, odpůrce (v občanském právu)
- **Petty offence**- přešupek
- **Serious offence**- závažný trestní čin
- **Plaintiff**- návrhovatel
- **Tort**- občansko-právní delikt
- **Damage**- náhrada škody
- **Specific performance**- dodržení smlouvy podle soudního příkazu

Sources

- Chromá, M. New Introduction to legal English. Prague: The Carolinum Press, 2008.
- Powell, Richard. Law today. 1. ed. Harlow : Longman, 1993.

Thank you for your attention.

