

REVIEWS AND ANNOTATIONS

Tomášek, Michal. Kapesní česko-čínský/čínsko-český právní slovníček. 袖珍捷汉/汉捷法律词汇. Plzeň, Vydavatelství a nakladatelství Aleš Čeněk, 2014, 110 s. [Czech-Chinese and Chinese-Czech Practical Legal Dictionary. Plzeň, The publishers Aleš Čeněk, 2014, 110 pp.]

This dictionary is a seemingly modest but important initial contribution to Czech-Chinese legal lexicography. The dictionary, as the author suggests in his preface, is a result of extensive research into the terminology of major legal branches – constitutional law, civil law, criminal law and administrative law. The main objective for selecting individual entries was to provide terminology which seems to be most relevant in Czech-Chinese contacts and legal communication with Chinese partners.

It is apparent that the arrangement of entries is not incidental or random. It is based upon a deeper and well-grounded methodology, which clearly suggests that the author relies not only on his theoretical lexicographic background, but also, and primarily, on his deep knowledge of Chinese law, his long-lasting personal experience in Chinese society and his engagement in official Czech-Chinese dealings.

The pocket-size of the dictionary limits the scope of included Czech and Chinese legal terminology. The selection of terms was based primarily upon the frequency of occurrence of the individual terms in transactions and communication between China and the Czech Republic; archaic and geographically restricted terms were omitted, i.e. terms applicable solely to Czech law or Chinese law are excluded. Included entries are considered only as legal terms, i.e. only their legal equivalents are provided irrespective of their other meanings in general language. The dictionary was made as a translational dictionary, i.e. it does not contain definitions of terms, but provides only their translational equivalents.

What will be appreciated by users of the dictionary is the arrangement of individual entries: the Czech-Chinese part is arranged alphabetically, as is the tradition in similar types of dictionaries; however, the Chinese-Czech part is arranged not according to the regular sequence of Chinese signs but according to the English transcription of their Chinese pronunciation.

The dictionary is the first legal lexicographical contribution to the development of contacts between China and the Czech Republic; let us hope it will be followed by more extensive lexicons focusing on individual branches of law from a comparative legal perspective.

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Adamová, Karolina, Lojek, Antonín. Právníci doby rudolfínské. Praha: Ústav státu a práva AV ČR, 2013, 120 s. [The Lawyers of RudolFINE AGE. Prague: Institute of State and Law of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, 2013, 120 pp.]

Before discussing the reviewed book it is important to stress the importance of the reign of Rudolf II for further development of science, arts and not least of all literature. This period was in the history of the Czech lands one of the most important periods as humanism flourished not only in arts but also in legal thought, theory and practice.

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