

Abstract

The diploma thesis will deal with examining the position of a directly elected president through a plebiscitary approach to the democracy. This approach is based on the idea that contemporary democracy based on vocal power of the people becomes a dangerous fiction in eyes of the theorists of plebiscitarianism. Their statements are supported by several trends, among other things, the increasing importance of mass media, or the personalization of politics itself, that significantly reduce means ordinary citizens to participate in political decisions. The Czech Republic is no exception and the introduction of the popular election of the president can be considered as the most visible outcome of these trends. Despite the often negative connotations associated with the notion of plebiscitarianism in the past, as well as with certain modifications provided by Jeffrey Green and other contemporary political theorists of plebiscitary democracy, it can be considered as a the most suitable mean of controlling the activities of politicians, even the popularly elected president.

The main goal of my diploma thesis is to describe a several theoretical approaches that deal with a plebiscitary democracy as possible alternative to solving issues related to contemporary democracies. These appeals to „the other sense(s)“ are appended by the theory of political performance that can uncover tension within a plebiscitary theory itself. We can see an afford to stabilise the political regime but there is also a necessity of involving of the people in political actions for proper democratic functioning. Of course, the people becomes rather an audience but still has some means of power how to show an disagree or a agree. This can undermine a stabilising afford of political actors.