

Abstract

Migration offers a spectrum of illegal channels through which migrants enter their target countries. Marriages of convenience are one of these ways. Specifically this means marrying a foreigner who has no residence status or has a lower one than their partner they are marrying. Their partner may be the citizen of their target country or also a foreigner, however, having a higher residence status. People entering such marriages misuse the marriage institute in order to obtain a legal residence in the given country. The objective of the diploma thesis is thus illegal migration through marriages between nationals coming from third countries of the Muslim world and people living in the area of the Czech Republic. Subsequently, foreigners obtain the status of a family member, of an EU citizen, and together with that the right of a free residence and movement within the EU. The general aim of the research was to compare two categories of these foreigners who were looking for the entry into the Czech Republic based on a short-term visa. One category consisted of visa applicants who succeeded in their applications, and those whose applications were refused due to a detected circumvention of the immigration law in the form of a marriages of convenience. Both groups were compared based on chosen indicators that are the following: the age difference between the married man and woman, the existence of a relative staying in an EU country in visa applicants, socio-economic background in women living in the Czech Republic, and the length of the married couple's relationship before marriage, and the number of their meetings connected. The comparison was also supported by the compiled profiles of a man and a woman representing both categories, and the places where the observed married couples had met for their first time were mapped as well. Analysis data was provided by the Visa department of the Foreign Police Directorate in Prague. Data was collected via the method of quantitative content analysis, and to process it, the method of categorial data analysis and the ANOVA two-factor method were applied.

Keywords:

marriage of convenience, illegal migration, Foreign Police Directorate, explanation protocol, the Czech Republic, Muslim countries