

Main themes of the thesis are cohesion and solidarity among people. Thesis focuses on the function of social networks in the Czech Republic. In the beginning is defined the conception of the social networks and their inner structure. As social networks represent a basic source of support and information for each member of society, it is substantial to focus on their function. The empirical part involves secondary analyze of social networks. The aim is to find out what kind of support members of society give to each other and what way do people help each other in ordinary and also in critical situations. Social networks comprise family, relatives, friends and others. The relationship among these people is analyzed through a view of reciprocal cooperation. Within the networks of friends were analyzed also main aspects of the relationships and intensity of its functioning. The final part includes an international comparison. It compares how different or similar are networks of friendship in the Czech Republic and in other five countries involved in the research. At the end there are mentioned main conclusions of the thesis and recommendations for a future research.