Abstract

In the theoretical part of the thesis will be treated the diversification of the private and the public sphere. Borderline between the private and public sphere is the pivot element at enclosing of the market of ideas' limits from the side of society. The market of ideas is the mechanism of mutual competition of ideas and thoughts in the public sphere. The significant barrier between the private and the public sphere and historically persisting stigmatization of the public sphere in the attitudes of citizens of the post communistic Czech Republic, weak the interest of citizens to enter into this market. The very citizens are potential that nourishes the market of ideas and thoughts from the side of society.

The second element, which creates the theoretical frame of the thesis, are concepts of civil society and political culture, as two concepts of the public sphere. Civil society will be presented from various corners, as it is analysed in the theoretical literature. From the historical perspective will be then described formation of civil society on the territory of present Czech Republic together with the explication of its relation to the state system. In this description the emphasis is placed on the period of supremacy of the communist regime, whereas communist checkups executed in the 1970s and 1980s are analysed more profoundly. Communist checkups are selected as the example of mechanism that demonstrates outstanding diversification of private and public sphere by the communist power. Within the theoretical part is also presented the concept of political culture.

In the empirical part of the thesis is the surmounting of the borderline between private and public sphere operationalized by ways of civil participation on public matters. In the presentation of research Region and politics 2000 are observed characteristics of the political culture of the Czech society, especially individual attitudes to personal participation in the public sphere. Following statistical analysis of empirical data of the international research ISSP Citizenship 2004 is focused on the amount of factually realized participation. Examined measure of civil participation of Czech population is compared with the selected western populations.