

## **ABSTRACT**

This diploma theses presented deals with the development and electoral success of chosen populist parties and movements in the Czech Republic and the United Kingdom, and a comparison of the electoral success in those countries. The thesis is focused on the period between 2010 and 2019, given that the year 2010 represents a turning point considering election results in both countries. The first part of the thesis presents theoretical background of the study of populism and different understandings of the concept. The minimal definition of populism is presented there, together with three fundamental actors of populism which are then used to identify individual populist parties. The second and the third part of this thesis deal with the situation in the Czech Republic and the United Kingdom, respectively. We identify populist political parties and movements which are active on nationwide level and which managed to gain substantial results in parliamentary elections in the country or in elections to the European Parliament. Each party is described in terms of its development and its activity in politics, and then its electoral success in important elections is assessed. Subsequently, relevant party materials are analyzed, such as manifestos, websites, and leaders' statements which show particular manifestations of populism. Finally, the populist parties and movements are compared in their electoral success in given countries. We also suggest possible factors that can influence the success of these political actors.

## **KEYWORDS**

Populism, Dawn of Direct Democracy (Úsvit), Freedom and Direct Democracy (SPD), ANO, Public Affairs (VV), United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP), British National Party (BNP), Brexit Party (BP), Brexit