

Abstract

Diploma thesis „Influence of the European Union on the mobility of volunteers coming to the Czech Republic“ deals with the mobility of volunteers from partner countries of the EU who participate in the European Voluntary Service - the EU programme of non-formal education in the Czech Republic. The thesis follows the existing development of mobility of people till 2004, when the Council of the EU used its increased competence in the area of freedom, security and justice and approved the Directive 2004/114/EC on the conditions of admission of third-country nationals for the purpose of studies, pupils exchange, unremunerated training or voluntary service. It is the first time ever when the Directive mentions the volunteers as a specific target group of the mobility for educational purpose. The paper evaluates if the directive reflects the present challenges of recognition of the non-formal education on the European level. Further on, it focuses specifically on the year 2007 when the influence of the European legislature entered into the immigration policy of the Czech Republic, particularly in the amendment of the act on residence of foreigners on the territory of the Czech Republic n. 326/1999 Sb. which among others allows the volunteers in the age of 18 till 25 years old to apply for the student visa. In compliance with the multi-level government theory, the thesis examines how the actors of different levels (European, national and sub-national) influence the policy making process defining the enter conditions for the volunteers - in this case mainly the immigration policy of the Czech Republic and partially the preparation of the amendment of the act on voluntary service n. 198/2002 Sb. The findings confirm the dominant influence of the EU and minimal influence of the sub-national actors.