

## **Abstract**

The aim of the thesis is to analyse the nature of multi-level governance in climate protection policy in Germany and Austria and to compare the analysed cases. The concept of multilevel governance is used as the theoretical basis of the thesis, the key idea of which is the mutual integration and influence of the levels of governance. Using this concept, the thesis analyses the horizontal and vertical levels of policy making and implementation involving both state and non-state actors. The analysis is carried out through four features of multilevel governance, predefined on the basis of an analysis of the literature, which are: diffusion of competences, non-hierarchical institutional framework, consensus-based decision-making and the principle of partnership. These features are also the dimensions on the basis of which the selected cases are compared. The multi-level governance in the climate protection policy of Germany and Austria is then classified on the basis of the typology of Liesbet Hooghe and Gary Marks. The thesis also includes an analysis of the instruments and policy processes of climate policy in both countries, which will provide insight into the role and influence of the different levels of governance in the formation of policy in the analysed area of governance.