

Abstract

This thesis project seeks to examine refugee interest group formation rates in the Czech Republic through both standard and novel methods. Utilizing data collected regarding refugee interest groups formations from the fall of communism in Czechoslovakia up until the onset of the Ukrainian refugee crisis, this thesis tests refugee interest groups along the traditional lines of studying interest group formation rates, such as density-dependence, political opportunity structure, and incentive theory. However, this study also utilizes critical discourse analysis to understand how issue framing by mainstream Czech politicians surrounding refugee interest groups also impacts refugee interest group formation rates, in particular amidst the Syrian and Ukrainian refugee crises.