

Abstract

The aim of the thesis "*Gender in Czech Diplomacy: couples' decision-making about acceptance an assignment abroad*" is to understand the decision-making processes of couples where one partner works as a diplomat to accept a foreign mission. The subject of the research is the perspective of diplomats themselves, but also of their accompanying partners, who are an integral part of foreign missions. Accompanying partners are often in a disadvantaged position and are socio-economically dependent on the diplomat. This fact points to gender inequality in the private sphere of diplomacy, as the accompanying partners are mostly women. Moreover, this may also have an impact on the inequalities in the lower representation of women among diplomats, as men may be less willing to follow female diplomats abroad for this reason. Based on a qualitative investigation, semi-structured interviews with diplomats and their interlocutors were analyzed from the perspective of rational choice theory and the model of willingness to accept a foreign mission to better understand decision-making processes. The results of the analysis provide further insight into the decision-making process, what couples consider the pros and cons of going abroad and what factors influence their final decision. Based on the result of the analysis, possible measures to support accompanying persons were also defined.