

## **Abstract**

The research paper examines the development of child protection policies in the Czech Republic over the past 15 years, revealing a complex and sometimes contradictory evolution. The study used Multiple Streams Framework (MSF) and Advocacy Coalition Framework (ACF) theories, proposing extensions where these theories fell short in explaining observed developments.

Main findings on policy development are that lack of policy-making for at-risk family support stemmed from insufficient motivation and incentives for policy design. Specific policymakers with intrinsic motivation played a crucial role in housing support policy development. The 2012 foster care policy approval was influenced by political polarization and party loyalty. The smooth 2021 ban on institutional care for young children was facilitated by a strong advocacy coalition with significant resources.

The research concludes that policy development was largely influenced by chance appearances of motivated policymakers, highlighting long-term lack of policy capacity and dysfunctional accountability mechanisms.

Regarding policy process theories, the study proposes a framework for analyzing policy-making (policy design) preconditions, addressing situations where no policy proposals exist. It also suggests that ACF may underestimate rationality in advocacy coalitions' actions and that political polarization and electoral cycle phases are underappreciated variables in existing policy change conceptualizations.