

Abstract

The master's thesis focuses on the role of the European Commission in the adoption of the Public Service Law (zákon č. 234/2014 Sb., o státní službě) in the Czech Republic. Its goal is to identify particular European Commission's tools of influence and their utilisation in the analysed case. The case study puts stress not only on hard methods (such as ex ante conditionality), but also on soft forms of influence (e.g. socialisation or persuasion). The Commission's tools were sorted according to Frank Schimmelfennig and Ulrich Sedelmeier's typology: 1) External-Incentive-Model; 2) Social-Learning-Model and 3) Lesson-Drawing-Model. The thesis combines two methodological approaches - process tracing and discursive analysis of relevant Czech actors. Data were collected using semi-structured interviews and publically accessible documents.