

This dissertation thesis focuses on the European dimension of cultural diversity, migration, national and European identity, and the knowledge of languages. Languages help facilitating dialogue between cultures according to the strategic goals of the European Union (EU).

It is continually difficult for European countries to find the rules of peaceful coexistence between the European and non-European cultures, ethnical groups and religions. In conclusion, a multicultural environment is formed. The EU is based on “unity in diversity”, i.e. diversity of cultures, customs, as well as languages. The EU does not aim to erase the differences among individual states, but to support, preserve and honour them through its community programmes, political provisions and recommendations.

This thesis is divided into two parts. The first one is the theoretical basis, which introduces the main terms in the area of cultural diversity, and national and European identity. This section also describes the concepts and strategies of the EU, which are then analyzed in the second portion, the empirical part.

The chapter in the theoretical part focuses on cultural diversity while introducing cultural policies of the EU and its new strategy for culture in in the globalized world. Cultural diversity is a common denominator for intercultural dialogue and language diversity. The thesis of this portion stresses the role of language diversity in the united Europe and underlines the importance of foreign language classes in today’s schools. The thesis also introduces current policies and new programmes in the fields of culture, youth and education in the European Community. The theoretical part also includes the following topics: migration, free movement of persons, and focusing especially on the mobility of young people in the EU.

It is quite difficult to define the terms nation, national and European identity in the light of the analysis and the interpretation of the results. This analysis was supported by the historical discourse about the EU development.

This thesis includes information regarding the promotion of the Czech culture abroad with the help of Czech cultural centres. It also mentions the presentation of the Czech Republic during the Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU.