

Diploma thesis The Position of Prime Ministers in the Political Systems of the Czech Republic and Slovakia is focused on the comparison of the roles of prime ministers in the political systems of the Czech Republic and Slovakia. The selection of these countries for comparative analysis has not been informed only by the shared history, but also by similar problems and challenges that these countries have been dealing with since their foundation in 1993 such as democratisation, economic and societal transformation, consolidation of constitutional institutions or the path towards the European integration.

The study maps the experiences of actors of the executive power in both countries and points out the fact that the position of a prime minister in the political system has not exclusively been related to the personality of a prime minister. Furthermore, it is affected by an electoral system and party systems, the nature and stability of governments. Additionally to these easily visible and manifest indicators, the scope of activities of a prime minister also depends on political culture or other variables with a personified nature. Moreover, the institute of a president, legislative bodies, and specific political parties and ministers represent the key “opponents” of a prime minister.

The study also observes how the institutional changes, which happened in both the countries (as the introduction of the Senate in the Czech Republic or direct election of a president in Slovakia), affected the position of a prime minister. Finally, the conclusion about the position of prime ministers in both the Czech and Slovak political systems are compared with empirical studies carried out by authors who focused their attention on the role of a prime minister in political systems with a richer experience with democracy.