

ABSTRACT

This thesis is focused on the issue of citizenship and patriotism of Czech Republic Army members, ie soldiers. Since citizenship, patriotism and military service has been historically linked, I decided to focus on those links in today´s world and especially in the Czech Republic context. The aim is to determine how Czech Republic Army soldiers understand their citizenship and patriotism, and how is their citizenship and patriotism manifested. Furthermore, I also try to determine, which motivations soldiers consider the most important for their performance of military service.

To achieve the goals, I present the relevant literature and introduce my own mixed sociological research that was realised on one selected military unit. Whereas that topic is considerably neglected in the Czech context, this thesis represent a contribution to the debate on the current form of the army and also point out the connection between civil society and army. One of the most important conclusions of this work is the finding, that soldiers feel the necessity of greater cooperation between the military and citizens, which could take place through civil society organizations and could thus open the way for greater interconnection of military world and civil society, and strengthen the links between them.

Key Words:

citizenship, civil society, patriotism, army