The main goal of this thesis is to explore the particularities of teaching English as a foreign language to adult learners in the Czech Republic, within the framework of the European Union. Language education of adults is explored in the context of lifelong learning. Three types of language courses for adults (In-house Courses, Exam Courses and In-company Courses) are described and the needs of adult language students are analysed via Needs Analysis Questionnaires. The results of the analysis are interpreted with regard to teacher’s work and attitudes to adult language learners.