## **Abstract**

Diploma thesis "Czech apprenticeship at a crossroads" deals with the controversial topic of apprenticeship. Thesis is based on theoretical concepts of educational reproduction, positive functions of diversified educational systems, lifelong learning and problem delimitation in public policy. It brings the international perspective viewpoint and identifies strengths and weaknesses of different systems. Author looks into causes and consequences of negative phenomena while trying to understand different positions of employers and apprentices. Key areas are based on the delimited problem. These areas are: sole system of vocational education, which favors students with higher socioeconomic background; career guidance field, whose role in the process of decision making of students entering apprenticeship is small; the area of cooperation with social partners, which is crucial in enhancing the quality of apprenticeship. Author introduces possible ways of political change in these areas.

## **Keywords**

Apprenticeship, vocational programme, public policy stakeholders, problem delimitation, unemployment, labour market, educational reproduction