

The purpose of this diploma thesis is to describe the influence of the European Union and especially the European employment strategy on the active employment policy in the Czech Republic. The thesis follows the development of the employment policy in both European Union and the Czech Republic. One part of the thesis is devoted to the pre-accession period and the other is concerned with the period after the Czech Republic has become a valid member of the EU. There were applied two theoretical concepts in the analysis of the European Union's influence on the Czech employment policy: social network theory and the concept of policy transfer. There are pointed out the changes that happened in both periods. The motivation of both parties to accept and implement the changes and to influence or to be influenced is described. The aim of this thesis is to prove that the Czech Republic has been influenced and to show the aspects of the influence: where, why and by whom.