

**Abstract:**

**TITLE:** Early intervention. Comparative study of the early intervention system of the Czech Republic and the federal state of Styria.

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The topic of the Dissertation is the early intervention. Provision of timely assistance to a family in a difficult life situation is the primary goal of early intervention. Theoretical possibilities of early intervention are outlined in the introduction of the work. The study offers a view of early intervention not only in the context of disability but also focuses on the issue of threat to the development of a child with psychosocial risks. The theoretical knowledge is based on foreign experience, confirming the importance and necessity of early intervention in socially disadvantaged families.

Results of a comparative analytical study are presented in the research part. We have opted for a qualitative approach to data treatment, with the aim to understand the phenomena of early intervention in the context of the given country. The early intervention system of the Czech Republic is compared to that of Styria, Austria. Within Europe, Styria is considered one of the countries with the most sophisticated and integrated system of early intervention. Based on a research, both common and different phenomena are identified and general conclusions for practice are drawn.

**Key words:** early age child, early intervention, disability, social disadvantage, social exclusion, psychosocial risks, comparison, analytical study, qualitative research,