

## **Abstract**

There are more and more foreigners living every year in the Czech Republic. Their lives, working opportunities and overall social integration are significantly affected by their education and the access to it. This diploma thesis brings essentially an overview of possibilities of education in four areas: the learning of the Czech language and the access to university, high school or higher vocational school education; the acquisition of social, cultural and legal awareness, as well as other paths for gaining qualification or retraining. However, foreigners are commonly faced with deterrents when coming from a foreign educational system to the Czech one: nostrification of their documents, bureaucracy, language barriers and financial difficulties. The research part of the thesis has shown that there are some differences between two large minorities – the Americans and the Ukrainians – as to their access to education and motivation to learn. Furthermore, it has ascertained that their integration also hinges upon whether they are coming to the Czech Republic with a secure goal (job, studies, Czech partner or family) and what their financial background is.