

Abstract

Volunteering – one of the topics which are still present in the society, as it can be perceived as a unique instrument to solve social challenges or organizing society with its specific conditions.

The topic of my diploma thesis, based on the grounded theory method, is the process of building and maintaining the relationship of the volunteer to their voluntary work from the volunteers' perspective. I was curious as to what circumstances or limits accompany the forming of such a relationship in the social context and if certain “prototypes” can be found, which would differ in negotiating their role to their surroundings. In my thesis, I focus exclusively on those volunteers who have been given the “Křesadlo” award for the volunteer of the year, which provides the framework of this relationship.

I would like to use my results to enrich the knowledge of volunteering's image, which could be used both on the academic field and when working with volunteers.

Keywords: civic sector, volunteering, self-perspective, role, identity, “looking-glass self”, norm, defence mechanisms, information management, Křesadlo.