

ABSTRACT

The Diploma thesis deals with the current status of French as a language of diplomacy and with the role and the position of French in the Czech Republic. The goal of the theoretical part is to define the term diplomacy, to summarize significant periods of French language in the history of diplomacy, to deal with the factors which influence language status and to observe competitors of French. It focuses on six selected languages: English, Spanish, Russian, German, Arabic and Chinese. It is trying to show the particularities of French as a diplomatic language. In the practical part, its goal is firstly to outline diplomatic organizations in our country and to describe their function. On the basis of the latest statistics and other collected data by means of interviews, the thesis illustrates the changes which can be traced in the language recently. Concerning the Czech Republic, it shows the changes caused by the accession to the EU and by the introduction of the CEFRL. In the end, it suggests three possible hypotheses of subsequent development of the French language in the world.

KEYWORDS

French language, status, diplomacy, global language, evolution, competitors, diplomatic organizations, language education