

Abstract

This study analyzes the relationship between motivation for civic engagement, migration experience, and identity, in first generation migrants. It draws upon the idea that civic engagement is beneficial for democratic societies in general, and that it can also be a source of great support for migrants in the process of integration into a new environment. So far, very little attention has been paid to the civic engagement of migrants in the Czech Republic, especially from the point of view of migrants themselves. This qualitative study aims towards a better understanding of the connections between migration and civic engagement. Personal histories of civic engagement of active migrants are analyzed, with an emphasis placed on the roles migration experience and ethnic/national identity shifts play in the process of civic engagement.