

## **ABSTRACT**

The thesis „Civic participation of older people in the context of the University of the Third Age“ focuses on the role of civic participation in the lives of active older people who attend the University of the Third Age. This role is examined in the context of adult education, specifically through a leisure education program, which is dedicated to educating older people, i.e. the University of the Third Age. From a demographic perspective, the elderly population will continue to grow. This will be unavoidably reflected in the development of civil society in which older people participate. This makes it relevant to pay older people as an active group more research attention. Qualitative data were collected via in-depth interviews. Attention was paid namely to the interviewees' attitudes to and experience of civic participation they have accumulated over their life course. The analysed respondents' accounts indicate that they understand participation as activities related to politics and as politically oriented activities. They attach the greatest importance to political participation. Formal participation also occurs, but the respondents do not stress this participation as they rather take it for granted.