

Abstract

Urban movements are defined as groups of citizens that try to emphasize urban problems. Originally urban movements in reference to Manuel Castells addressed issues arising from the collective consumption and uneven accumulation of capital to government. The interest of current urban movements is broader. They focus on topics as quality of urban life, accessibility of urban spaces and urban infrastructure and policy making process. The aim of this diploma thesis is to describe urban movements in the context of civic society in Prague. The thesis focuses on the origin, activities, topics and relations of urban movements. The case study focuses on urban movements participating on three topics in city district Prague 8 (eco-centre Trojský vrch, Invalidovna in Karlín and Libeňský most). Semi-structured interviews were conducted with representatives of involved urban movements and selected local politicians. Results of the research imply that Czech urban movements actively influence neighbourhoods. Activities of urban movements are affected by the members' relation to the locality, but also by the territorial scope of movements. Actions of the current urban movements are linked to new possibilities of ICT; the movement works with the community of social network users and uses the shared information infrastructure. Urban movements build networks for the purposes of policy learning, capacity building, accessibility of strategic documents and participation in decision-making processes.