Abstract
The private sector is an integral part of the global mainstream political development discourse. It appears in different contexts that define its roles in the field of development cooperation policy and therefore imply diverse political actions. The thesis analyses the Czech development discourse in connection with the private sector from 1995 until today. Based on the method of discourse analysis of the outputs of relevant development stakeholders the research identifies four different types of development discourse in relation to the private sector: „The private sector – a taboo“, „We pay, we want Czech enterprises in development cooperation“, „The private sector, the careless destructor“, „The private sector, the darling of the development cooperation policy stakeholders.“ Out of the discourses identified, every type is typical for a specific time period as well as a specific set of stakeholders employing the discourse. Generally, until the Czech accession to the EU, the private sector does not seem to be an important element of the governmental development discourse since the theme is practically absent. This changes with the global economic crisis and even more notably after 2015 when generally all of the relevant development actors, including the traditionally very critical NGO sector, picture the private sector and its activity predominantly positively, as one of the key preconditions of development. This shows that the Czech development discourse reflects the mainstream global political discourse and importantly, is subject to the home economic and political situation, in concrete terms, to the lack of public finance allocated to development cooperation in the years after the crisis. In consequence, such a discourse opens a room for further engagement of Czech enterprises.