Abstract

Active aging is a frequently discussed issue in recent years due to the demographic aging of the population. The aim of this thesis is to map the development of the concept of active aging from its origin to the present (2000-2016). To meet the objectives there were done expert interviews and analysis of strategic documents and national action plans issued in a defined period. This thesis focuses on the development of the concept of active aging, specifically in the areas of education, employment, healthy aging and personal development. It turns out that the most important area of active aging is education that significantly affects other areas such as interest activities, longer working lives, engaging in social and cultural activities.

Implementation of the concept of active aging takes place at several levels, at social level, at an individual level, or interconnection of these levels (multidimensional concept). The work is therefore focused on examining whether the concept of active aging in the Czech Republic is perceived rather as a tool for improving the quality of life of the senior, or whether it can be used as a tool to mitigate the effects of demographic aging.

The work also shows that the development of active aging also affects how seniors are perceived in society (among other things). It turns out that at the beginning of the concept of active aging, the elderly were viewed as a negative group, which has relatively little political power to uphold their priorities. However, with the development of this concept, the structure of seniors began to change so at present it has more positive character.