Abstract

The Master’s thesis called “The Effects of Securitising Migration: The case of Slovakia and the Czech Republic” aims to analyse the extent to which is migration constructed as a security threat in crucial conceptual and strategic documents regarding migration, drafted by the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic. Given that the Ministry of Interior is a key player in the field of migration in both countries setting the direction of migration policy on conceptual, legislative and implementation level, it enters a discursive field of migration by offering its own understanding of migration, which has a great impact on the policymaking in the area of migration, migration practice and consequently on the life of migrants. Despite the fact that both Slovakia and the Czech Republic have one of the lowest shares of foreigners within population in the whole European Union as well as neither of the two countries have been the final destinations of migrants during the so called refugee crisis, we can identify the dominant role of security discourse in both countries. To get a better insight into a wider social context, the thesis also builds on the number of “texts and talks” dealing with the issue of migration beside the official policy documents and strategies, such as legal acts, statements the representatives of the Ministry of Interior and other relevant actors in the field of migration as well as qualitative interviews with selected actors of migration practice in Slovakia and the Czech Republic. Using Critical discourse analysis, the thesis aims to analyse the language use by civil bureaucrats from the Ministry of Interior, which helps us understand the meanings and rules that constitute social practice in the field of migration in both countries as well as the role of wider social context in the construction of migration as a security threat.

Keywords

migration, securitisation, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Critical Discourse Analysis

Title

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