

Abstract

The Diploma thesis presents how teenage students from third countries understand their daily life problems and difficulties which happen to them as a consequence of being a foreigner in a host country. Based on an analysis of ten semi-structural interviews, it is shown that students face several types of problems. The situations mentioned reveal a lack of recognition of their position in the Czech Republic; however, students perceive problems this way rarely. Even though students describe relatively large amount of language and scholastic difficulties, and problems with classmates and unpleasant encounters outside of the school environment, they tend not to see them as inequalities but rather as inevitable situations connected to their status of being a foreigner. They also often understand the problems as individual experiences which do not happen collectively, they see these problems as exceptions and bad luck or as the same problems that Czechs have. Sometimes the problems are seen as inexplicable by the students. Only when an experience is strong enough, they perceive it as a racist behavior or discrimination. Despite the fact that students sometimes demonstrate an inability to react to such behavior, they create several strategies on how to avoid them and how to deal with them. What crystallized from the interviews is that the strategies used in certain situations depend on how the students perceive this situation.