The diploma thesis "European R&D policy. Recent development and perspectives" deals with the last development and the state-of-the-art of the EU research policy. The thesis examines why, despite all efforts, Europe has not managed to increase the volume and efficiency of its research and technological development. The last part of the thesis shortly examines the position of the European research in the Czech Republic and of the Czech Republic in the European research and the benefits for CR. First part of the study deals with the Community sixth framework programme for R&D; it brings a short analysis of expert reports and of the debate of stakeholders to this topic. Finally, it deals with changes that were projected to the new, seventh framework programme. Second part of the thesis deals with the position of research policy in the ranking of priorities of the European Commission and also about expert reports and their opinions on the European R&D. At the same time this chapter brings an analysis of new instruments and initiatives, such as the European Research Council and the European Technology Platforms. Last part is dedicated to the Czech Republic and the place of the European research in the Czech public R&D support system; it also brings a short case study on the West Bohemian region.