

Abstract

The thesis aims to analyse the relations of non-governmental organisations towards the European integration process, which creates an additional platform for their interest representation. This case study focuses on how Czech non-profit organisations, which are dealing in long term with the topic of climate change, try to use the instruments and channels available at the EU level to promote their idea of the 2030 Climate and Energy Framework targets and how the EU climate action policy translates to their understanding of the topic. The thesis is based on the Europeanization theory that assumes that non-state actors are adjusting their behaviour to the existence of another platform of decision making and interest representation. I, therefore, assume, that the selected sample of Czech ecological NGOs tries to actively use the opportunity to participate in the EU decision making – especially because a climate policy is decided mostly at the EU level and therefore the outcomes, such as the 2030 Framework, present another tool to achieve change in the climate policy of the Czech Republic. I conclude that from the perspective of selected NGOs the European climate policy is perceived as an important driver behind the development in this field in both Czech Republic and global negotiations – even though it may be less ambitious than the NGOs would appreciate. However, most attempts for interaction with the EU level of decision making are hampered by limited personal and financial capacities of the organizations. Formal participation in consultation processes is therefore limited to affairs directly linked to Czech context and in more general issues, such as the 2030 Framework, the activity on EU level is delegated on network and umbrella organizations. Those are directly lobbying, but also pass on the information and expertise, facilitate international cooperation and help NGOs benefit from the EU grants. Most of the NGOs' activity is concentrated on the national level of decision making, which is more accessible for small non-state actors.