

The thesis *The Comparison of the functions and statuses of the presidents of the Czech Republic and France* compares the institutions of the leadership of two European countries and presents the differences and similarities between those. It features them in the context of the political regime and historical development of the given countries. The introductory theoretical part concerned with political systems and state leadership in general is followed by chapters which deal with the contemporary state of the Czech Republic and France in terms of their administrative division, the origin and development of republicanism and the distribution of powers. The main part of the thesis focuses on the comparison of the Czech and French presidents in various domains, such as presidential elections, accession to and vacation of the presidential function, length of term, powers of the president, political and criminal responsibility, or foreign politics. The last chapters deal with the contemporary French president, Nicolas Sarkozy, with his way to the position of the head of state and with the problems he encounters. The goal of this thesis is to present the functions of the Czech and the French president and to compare them while using topical resources either printed or electronic. It can be used as a teaching material for both social sciences and French.