Summary

The topic of my diploma thesis involves comparison between the largest Czech right-wing political party, the Civic Democratic Party (ODS), and the largest German conservative general political party, the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) which, together with the Christian Social Union (CSU) comprises a faction (CDU/CSU) at the federal level.

The major objective of the thesis is an analysis of development and programmatics of both political parties and subsequent comparison thereof, i.e. identification of any common, similar and different characteristic features.

The thesis is divided into four chapters. Chapter One deals with the theory of political parties, more strictly with the very concept of political party and its formation, its definitions, how it is divided, what roles it plays and what types of political parties there exist. Chapter Two is devoted to the Civic Democratic Party. I describe its formation, subsequent development and, finally, its programmatics. The individual objectives or principles are clearly shown on specific items of the political programme of 1995 and the current election programme "Jointly for Better Life" of 2006. Chapter three identically describes the formation, development and programmatics of the Christian Democratic Union. I point out important programme aspects by emphasizing certain parts of the party's programme guidelines of 1994 and the fundamental programme "Freedom and Certainty" of 2007. Chapter Four is devoted to comparison between both political and finding their similarities and differences.