

This master thesis deals with the transformation processes of the Slovak manufacturing sector in the period of 1997-2011. The theoretical framework of the paper presents the comparison of two conceptual approaches – the concept of path-dependency and the concept of footloose multinationals – on the regional distribution of manufacturing activities during the reporting period. Analyses are made according to a dependent variable, which is the regional employment in the manufacturing sector on the microregional level of NUTS4. Regional changes in the distribution of the manufacturing employment are analyzed employing several independent variables connected to the two theoretical concepts mentioned above. The main goal of the thesis is to shed light on and interpret the changes of industrialization and sectoral changes of the manufacturing sector.