

Abstract

The year 2013 is devoted to the idea of citizenship of the European Union with an emphasis on a reflection of its basement and meaning. The thesis *The Citizenship of the EU and the Roma as its holders* therefore explores a presumption of equality of the citizens that follows the definition of the citizenship on the examples connected to the Roma ethnic minority. Firstly, the thesis focuses on the citizenship in general and from the theoretical point of view. It analyses the definition of the citizenship of the EU, its relation to a national citizenship of the Member states, its development, and the rights of the citizens. In addition to this it also presents a professional debate analysing a concept of the European citizenship. The second part of this work is dedicated to the Roma directly. It shows the bonds of the Roma towards Europe through the history and the territory. More importantly it presents two cases that indicate a limitation of the EU citizenship rights for the Roma people. The first one discovers a structural discrimination of the citizens of the EU who do not have a residence in the Member state. This is one of the consequences of their nomadic way of life still preferred by some the Roma people. Subsequently, the second case analyses a controversial event of an expulsion of the Roma from France in the summer 2010. Therefore the thesis concludes that despite an effort of EU to eliminate all kinds of discrimination and to equally guarantee the rights for the citizens, practically it is still not possible. Consequently it is impossible to consider that all citizens of the EU are treated equally in practise.