

## **Abstract**

This Master's thesis deals with the construction of the threat of drought in the Czech Republic (which can be perceived as a matter of environmental security) using the securitization theory introduced by the Copenhagen school. This theory describes securitization as an intersubjective process, in which a particular threat is constructed by securitizing actors as a matter of security. The goal of the thesis was to find answers to the following research questions: I set to find out if the threat of drought in the Czech Republic was successfully securitized in the last ten years, who is the securitizing actor of the threat and what or who is the referent object, or in other words, the object which is being threatened. To find out the answers to the research questions, I used a qualitative research method of single case study; I analysed relevant primary sources using discourse and content analysis. The analysis showed that the securitization of drought in the Czech Republic was successful during the last ten years, since all the three criteria for successful securitization were met; there was a security speech act present, the audience has accepted the existence of the threat and the propositions of emergency measures against the threat of drought have been made. Based on the analysis of the primary documents I have concluded that the main securitizing actors are from the state sphere, particularly the central state authorities such as the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic, and the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. The analysis of the documents showed that the objects being threatened by drought are according to securitizing actors, objects from environmental, social and economic sphere. In this Master's thesis, the securitization theory has been applied on the threat of drought in the Czech Republic for the first time and we can say that the topic of droughts in this region is still persistent while being a long-term problem at the same time.