

## **Abstract**

The diploma thesis deals with coping with the COVID-19 pandemic among academic mothers. The aim of the thesis is to discover how female academics dealt with the global crisis, specifically in relation to the combination of personal and professional life. The thesis considers the criteria of academic excellence and examines whether coping with the pandemic differed between excellent and non-excellent academics. Additionally, the thesis studies academic work in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic in two distinct scientific fields; STEM and SSH, and simultaneously in two types of academic institutions; public universities and Czech Academy of Science. In order to answer the research objectives, a qualitative methodology, specifically semi-structured interviews, were used. Qualitative methodology enabled identify key factors that had an impact on the coping with the pandemic among academic mothers. The research method also allowed us to obtain information for comparing a predetermined category. The research revealed three dimensions that alongside contribute to the ability of female academics to deal with the pandemic. These are personality, family and professional dimensions that influence each other and are interconnected. Academic excellence and achieving their criteria did not play a role in coping with the pandemic. Academic workers in STEM and SSH were concerned with similar problems, which, however, had a different character due to the specifics of these scientific fields. Academic staff working at the public universities and the Czech Academy of Sciences faced different challenges resulting from their workload, i.e., research grants and teaching.