

Abstract

Although the Presidency of the Council of the European Union and its agenda have been affected by the adoption of the Lisbon Treaty, it is still a useful tool that Member States can use, for example, for self-presentation within the EU. The evaluation of individual presidencies assesses, in particular, the success in promoting the priorities set by the presiding countries themselves. The aim of this thesis was to find out what factors influenced the choice of these final presidency priorities during the Czech Presidency in 2009 and 2022. To test the hypotheses based on the new institutionalism, an extensive qualitative analysis of EU legislative acts, Czech national strategies and Eurobarometer surveys was conducted. From these documents, the main themes that appeared most frequently in them were selected, which then allowed comparison with the resulting priorities of the Czech presidencies. These were always documents presented in the periods preceding each Presidency. This comparison showed that the priorities of the Czech presidencies were influenced by the progress in the given policy, the success rate for enforcement, the Commission's work program, the current situation in the European and global arena, and partially also its national strategic interests.