

Abstract

This diploma thesis focuses on the current situation regarding the coexistence of same-sex couples in the Czech Republic. The thesis deals with a proposal to amend Act No. 89/2012 Coll., with closer attention paid to the stenographic record of the 100th meeting of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic. The entire issue is viewed through the Advocacy Coalition Framework (ACF) theory, primarily utilizing the concept of advocacy coalitions. The main goal of the thesis is to analyze the process of discussing the proposal to amend the law aimed at legalizing same-sex marriages in the Czech Republic. The work explains how actors perceive the issue, how they influence the policy-making and decision-making process. The use of the concept of advocacy coalitions contributes to clarifying the formation and development of coalitions in public policy and to subsequently identifying how actors collaborate in promoting their interests. The source of data for the thesis was primarily information from the stenographic record, from other political documents such as parliamentary presses or laws, and also the outputs of involved actors on social networks. The data was supplemented with information from conducted semi-structured interviews. The theoretical background related to the issue of same-sex marriage is first clarified in the work. This information is subsequently utilized in the analytical part of the thesis. The analysis is focused first on identifying the involved actors, and then specified on the role of the members of parliament who actively participated in the process of discussing the amendment of Act No. 89/2012 Coll. regarding the given issue. The results show that the ACF theory can be a useful tool for analyzing the political process. The research has shown that actors within the advocacy coalition agree on the fundamental issues and problems related to same-sex marriage, but they are less likely to agree on secondary aspects. It has also been revealed that actors prefer to give up their secondary aspects rather than admit shortcomings in their core beliefs.