

Abstract

This bachelor thesis deals with the issue of low representation of women in political institutions in the Czech Republic. It examines this still topical problem primarily by confronting it with theories of representation, which are the main part of the thesis. In the first part, it focuses on the standard model of political representation, and tries to show several concepts that specifically focus on the states of low representation of population groups. The focus here will be on the different notions of descriptive and substantive representation, the existence of shared group perspectives and interests, and the possible division between the politics of presence and the politics of ideas.

The second part will introduce the constructivist turn as a possible alternative to the standard model of political representation. It will draw here primarily on the concept of the representative claim, the closer introduction of which will attempt to expose the shortcomings of existing thinking about political representation. In the conclusion, the findings presented in the theoretical part will be confronted and connected with each other using the concrete example of the non-profit organization Forum 50%, which is dedicated to the representation of women in Czech politics. As a result, the thesis aims to compare the major theories of political representation, and by projecting them into the practical work of the non-profit organization, to point out the possibilities of solving the structural problem of underrepresentation of women in Czech politics.

Keywords: Representation, standard model, representative claim, descriptive representation, shared perspective, women's interests