

## **Abstract**

The thesis examines the political discourse on informal care during the first four pandemic waves from March 2020 to February 2022. The study explores three main themes: crisis care allowance, distance learning, and the position of single parents in the pandemic. The author uses critical discursive analysis methods, as developed by Norman Fairclough, to identify prevalent images and themes of informal care in political discourse. The analysis also assesses the degree to which informal care has been gendered and the interconnections between political discourse and other discourses, such as journalistic and expert discourses. Finally, the conclusion of the thesis provides an evaluation of the effects of the discourse analysed and assesses the political representation of informal carers.