Abstract

The bachelor thesis entitled Economic Paradiplomacy of the Free State of Saxony in relation to the Czech Republic focuses on the practical aspects of the economic paradiplomacy that Saxony exercises in order to cultivate economic relations with Czechia as one of its most important trading partners. The thesis is based on qualitative research, which includes interviews with professionals in the field of Saxon-Czech economic relations. The interviews were conducted with Claudia Baldauf from Wirtschaftsförderung Sachsen and Stephan Brauckmann from the Saxon State Ministry of Economy, Labour and Transport. The thesis provides the historical context of economic cooperation between Saxony and Czechia, identifies the key actors of the Saxon economic paradiplomacy and analyses its concrete instruments, such as bilateral programmes, cooperation in multilateral organisations or formal and informal networks or ministerial visits. The results of the research show that Saxony's economic paradiplomacy is primarily aimed at breaking down barriers to cross-border transport, cooperation in the automotive, engineering or the energy sector, and effectively addressing global political changes that could jeopardise economic cooperation with Czechia.