

## **Abstract**

The main objective of the thesis is an analysis of possible future scenarios. This research is systematically focused on the analysis of the future possible trends in the context of the Slovak Republic's environment. The basis of the analysis is to identify the key external drivers and according to them to create the final scenarios of the future. The main approach to the scenario building in this thesis is the method of Cross-Impact Balance. Scenarios were created by semi-structured interviews with experts and by using the combinatorial analysis of consistency in terms of cross-impact of individual variants of the driving forces. The result of this thesis is five scenarios, referring to the future context of the environment of the Slovak Republic, depending on the development of a combination of different variants of external factors. For this scenarios there has been prepared the analysis of risks and opportunities in the perspective of the Environment of the Slovak Republic. Identified scenarios can be briefly described through the impact from least to the most positive. The first scenario shows the threat of an environmental collapse. The second scenario describes a power struggle over the resources and the consequences of excessive use of raw materials. The middle scenario describes the risk of constantly increasing inequality. The lack of metal and the reinforcement of the use of renewable energy sources describe the scenario number four. The last scenario describes the society which is based on the values of sustainability and justice.

### **Key words:**

Scenarios, forecasting, Cross-impact balance, cross-impact analysis, the environment, the Slovak Republic