

Abstract

The master thesis concentrates on studying the relations between the Czech Republic and Liechtenstein from 2000 until 2015. The Czech Republic and the monarchy share a long common history, reaching all the way to the Middle Ages. The Liechtensteins constituted autonomous political power in the Czech lands for centuries and this power played a significant role not only on the regional but also on the continental level. Historical development in Czech territory in 20th century interrupted this continuous symbiosis, the Liechtensteins lost all their Czech property in a short period of time and decided to leave Czech land permanently. Due to the confiscation of property by the Czech state, long-lasting litigations between the two states were created. Even the establishment of the democratic Czech Republic did not bring any change. It was only in 2009 when diplomatic communication was re-established, but ownership issues of different properties remain a challenging issue of bilateral relations. The opening part of the thesis summarizes the historical development in 20th century. The second part analyses property disputes between the Czech Republic and Liechtenstein from the historical perspective. The third part concentrates on contemporary political and economic system of Liechtenstein. Specific features of this system, which is reflected in the effective power of the ruling prince, also influence the diplomatic relations with the Czech Republic. The fourth chapter assesses the mutual interaction on the political, economic and cultural level after 2000. The thesis confirms the hypothesis that even nowadays the main challenge to the bilateral relations is the existence of the property disputes. The personal activity of the prince of Liechtenstein played pivotal role in re-establishing relations between Czech Republic and Liechtenstein. It is also a cultural and civil society cooperation, which allows overshadowing sensitive issues of bilateral relations.