**The social acceptance of wind energy in Austria and the Czech Republic**

For years the worldwide installed capacity of wind power has been increasing. Nowadays the main focus is on the one hand on large-scale projects, such as off-shore parks and on the other hand on Europe’s leaders of wind energy production, like Spain and Germany. But also various other, small European countries do have a high potential for generating electricity by wind power plants. Beside economic criteria social acceptance plays a decisive role regarding the realisation of a power plant. In our paper we want to elaborate the attitudes and preferences of Austrians and Czechs regarding wind energy.

The way we decided to find out the opinion of Czechs and Austrians about the usage of the wind energy is a questionary among citizens of both countries. The questionary will be focused on the opinion comparison concerning the different ways of electricity production. In addition, various previous studies will be used to identify the reasons for the prevalence of certain attitudes and to analyse preferences that both countries have in common.