

Abstract

Small and Medium-sized enterprises' success is subjected to economic conditions created by the national governments. It is well-known that the reforms and measures that the ruling government takes have a significant effect on any company's business operation. The primary focus of this thesis is on examining multiple government cabinets in Slovakia, the entrepreneurial environment that they created and how it influenced small and medium-sized in terms of their overall well-being. Specifically, it investigates whether the various reforms introduced at a particular time by a certain government helped them to do business or rather made their activities and operations even more complicated. In this context, a small and medium-sized company is defined as a company that employs less than 250 people, and its annual turnover does not exceed 40 million euros.

To research the issue, in-depth interviews of the two entrepreneurs were conducted. One of them represented the small business, the other the medium-sized business. The respondents were asked open-ended questions to get complex and valuable data. Narrative responses were analyzed thoroughly using qualitative research methods, including voice and body language. The results suggest that the significant effect of the reforms done in the period 1998-2006, especially the positive effect of the flat tax reform of centre-right government, but also bureaucratic measure and social approach of the centre-left government brought entrepreneurs of SMEs challenges that were hard to overcome. Based on the responses, it can be concluded that the most prosperous time periods for SMEs in the country were the cabinets of Mikulas Dzurinda and Iveta Radicova.