

Abstract

This Bachelor's thesis is dealing with the issue of wars against drug cartels in Mexico. Although war on drug cartels was firstly declared by American president Richard Nixon in 1971, in Mexico it was fully declared by president Felipe Calderón in 2006. With the entrance of more than 45 000 of troops and president's aim to detain or kill all of the major drug lords, harms of civilians arrived as well. Except for drug cartels, state forces committed them, too. This thesis focuses on period after 2008, when conflicts between army and the drug cartels started to escalate; nonetheless hassles between army and civilians started to escalate as well.

This thesis is a descriptive case study. The aim as to look at the history of drug wars, to bring readers closer to the idea of formation of drug cartels, to analyze the government's actions against them and to describe in detail incidents, in which military transgressions against human rights took place. In described incidents it is important to concentrate on the number of people who have been hurt, what type of harms did they suffer and in which situation those harms happened. The description of cases is followed by a comparison based on aforementioned indicators.

The research question of this work is how much violence has been committed by the military against civilians and in which areas those incidents have taken place.