

Abstract

This bachelor thesis examines the influence of superior authority on political freedoms in Hong Kong. The study examines the setting of relations between Hong Kong and the superior authority using the Institutional theory of direct and indirect rule. Relations are analysed in four selected periods, where are sought mechanisms that help the superior authority to influence political freedoms. The political and historical context is described in each period. These descriptions are used for relationships analysis and human rights evaluation. The period of British rule is represented by the turn of the 1960s and 1970s and then by the period 1990-1997, which preceded the handover. Chinese rule is examined in 1997-2005 and 2012-2019. After individual evaluation of each period, the study compares results. For the system is typical high influence of the superior authority in the sphere of political freedoms, which is given by the historical setting of the system. However, the analysis showed a gradual decrease in the superior authority influence in the researched periods. This was caused by the implementation of indirect rule and greater participation of the population in public events. The study also confirmed the assumption that indirect rule is beneficial to political freedoms. From the first to the third period, is observed an increase in the level of political freedoms. The superior authority has a function of an initiator of amendments in political freedoms, in these periods. Then there is observed a decline in political freedoms due to pressure from superior authority, in the fourth period. In this period also noticeably increases the role of the population as another player who influences political freedoms. Even though the superior authority still has a significant opportunity to influence political freedoms, the ability of the population to affect this process is growing.