

ABSTRACT

This thesis will take a closer look at the relatively new and multifaceted concept of Lusophony. It begins with a brief introduction to Portuguese colonial history and postcolonial development with a focus on the connection between Portuguese national identity, the colonial empire and today's Lusophone world. Subsequently, this thesis will present various conceptions of the colonial empire and the panorama of the transformations of colonial and anti-colonialist narratives through which Portuguese colonization and decolonization were justified. Among other things, this thesis aims to explore the topic of Lusophony in historical contexts, to examine the circumstances of this idea's origin and its development in Portugal, and, finally, to present some conceptualizations in the current academic context. Lastly, the main problems that Lusophony struggles with in the postcolonial context will be considered, specifically its relationship with the colonial past(s).

Key-words: Lusophony, Post-Colonialism, Portuguese speaking community, Identity, Lusophone culture, Portuguese language