

In this thesis we observe historical evolution of eastern and western Patriarchates and compare their canonical concepts. Then we consider different attitudes of experts as well as Church hierarchy to the existence of Latin Patriarchate with the Roman Bishop as its head. The Vatican authorities abolished in the year 2006 the Papal title "Patriarch of the West" and gave an official comment several weeks later. In this work we give an overview of reactions of western and eastern theologians to this act and sketch possible ecclesiological and ecumenical consequences.