

Abstract

This bachelor's thesis "The rule of president Putin - the journey towards sovereign democracy" analyses the political development in Russia since the beginning of Putin's first term. It describes the evolution of the system to the current state which is called the "sovereign democracy" by the Russians. When it is necessary the Putin's rule is compared to the previous two terms of Yeltsin. It analyses Putin's steps leading to the concentration of power to the president's hands. Further it focuses on the trend towards greater centralization and the changes made in the party system. It also deals with the impact of his rule on the freedom and independence of the media. The incomplete transfer of power during the presidential elections 2008 is analysed as well.