

The thesis entitled *The Phenomenon of corruption as an instrument of populism in Mexico: the case of A. M. López Obrador's rhetoric in the 2018 presidential campaign* examines the corruption struggle of AMLO, the President of Mexico in the 2018-2024 period. His strong anti-corruption rhetoric in the 2018 election campaign led to many expectations, both among the public and foreign organizations. However, after the first half of the Mexican President's term, there has been no successful anti-corruption fight; instead, Mexico's position on corruption has worsened. The failure to tackle the problem of bribery, corruption scandals close to the president, the unclear methodology of the anti-corruption fight, together with López Obrador's history as a populist rhetorician, leads to the question of how far the promised fight against corruption was serious and how far it was just a tool to gain the necessary public support.

The author's thesis confirms the hypothesis that in López Obrador's case it was a matter of using the issue of corruption as a tool of political strategy of populism. This theory assumes the use of appropriate circumstances by a populist actor to achieve the set goals. Institutional weakness, the importance of the issue of corruption and the discredited nature of previous governments created the appropriate circumstances for the success of López Obrador's populist rhetoric. The political strategy has been successful, but after winning the mandate, the promises are no longer being fulfilled, as the real fight against corruption is not AMLO's objective.

The thesis fills a void in the academic literature by linking populism, corruption and the person of López Obrador. Using the example of the current Mexican president, the author explains the spreading trend of populism and the unresolved deep-rooted problem of corruption in Mexico.