

Abstract

The thesis focuses primarily on the theme of Irish partition. The border itself was placed on the island a little over a hundred years ago and its meaning has also changed over time. We will follow the beginning of the partition from both the historical and political point of view. From the historical context through the roaring 20th century, we will examine the topic up to nowadays when the Irish partition gained new wave of interest in the context of the Brexit referendum. Research will be lead on multiple levels. The essential sources are laws, amending the partition, but also laws which created Northern Ireland and the Irish Free State, later the Republic of Ireland. In modern day we will work with Good Friday Agreement and Brexit Agreement which are both very crucial. Apart from laws we will also take into consideration practical obstacles of partition, that ordinary people must deal with. The last point of focus will be the political progress in both states on the island and the consequences of partition. The aim of this thesis is a complex overview of historical cleavages on the island of Ireland and the changes in Anglo-Irish relations in time. Finally, we evaluate the impact of Brexit on the whole island of Ireland not only in connection with insecurity around the Irish border but also in context of united Ireland debate which is slowly but surely getting bigger.

Keywords: Irish partition, Irish border, Irish backstop, Brexit