

This bachelor's thesis analyses the major trends in the development of Hong Kong society that have emerged since 2012. The work aims to understand how the Hong Kong events correspond to the trends taking place in Mainland China and the United Kingdom in the selected period. It builds on two case studies of proposed legislative changes related to the Umbrella Movement and the National Security Law, focusing on the reactions they have provoked in Hong Kong, Mainland China, and the UK. The most disputed points within both case studies are divided into several chapters based on the principles that have been challenged. By confronting the British and Chinese views, this thesis aims to explain how the events in Hong Kong are perceived by both the Chinese and British sides, as this interpretation subsequently guides their responses. The thesis draws on the Sino-British Joint Declaration, other legislation specific to Hong Kong, principles of international law, and the interests of China and the UK to analyse the motivations behind the two countries' behaviour.