

Diploma thesis „Sunni Islam in Contemporary Albania“ deals with development of islam and its spiritual institutions in post-Communist period (1991-present). In the text Historical background of islam in Albania and its current development are described in the text, as well as evolution of various theoretical conceptions concerning historical role of islam in Albania. Islamic institutions of contemporary Albania are analysed, with special focus on their organisational structure and legal basis of their existence and activities. The non-official islamic organisations and groups are analysed as well. Since these groups practice more rigid form of islam than the Muslim Community of Albania, security aspects of their presence on Albanian soil is considered in addition to the description of their structures and activities. Moreover, impact of islam on Albanian politics is analyzed and demonstrated on example of current Albanian Prime Minister Sali Berisha. Appart from a complex analysis of islamic spiritual life in contemporary Albania as a whole, the main contribution of the present thesis is reflection of recent changes of legislation regulating state-religion relations in Albania. The problem of Albanian secularism and its impact on Albania’s islamic institutions is also considered.