

The Diploma thesis “Current French immigration policy: continuity or innovation?” is treating the actual development of policies towards immigrants in France. It is focusing mainly on the analysis of two recently adopted laws in this area. Namely, the Law on Immigration and Integration from 26th July 2006 and the Law on Immigration, Integration and Asylum from 20th November 2007. Both Laws comprise of three integral, namely; selective immigration, illegal immigration and the connection between immigration and national identity. Each of these issues is addressed in its own chapter. Each chapter starts with an explanation of particular concepts, like the combination of terms “immigration choisie” and “immigration subie”, legal and illegal immigration and the concept of national identity. Next, the focus is on the continuity of the restrictive character of particular policies from the beginning of the 20th century which are influenced by economic (slow economic growth, high rate of unemployment), demographic (ageing of population) or political crises (activities of extreme right). The final part of each chapter considers the justness of the adopted proposals of the concerned laws. At the same time they identify possible areas where the French government policies towards immigrants could focus to achieve higher effectiveness in fulfilling the national interests without succumbing to the ethnic principle and extreme discriminative measures.