ABSTRACT

The bachelor thesis “Greek-Italian War (1940–1941) and its National Reflexion” deals with the issue of the Italian troops' invasion to Greece at the beginning of the Second World War. According to the expectations of Italian society, the military campaign should have been a clear victory for Mussolini's regime. However, in consequence of an unexpected wave of Greek patriotism, which helped unify the society and fight against the aggressor, the Italian invasion changed into a military fiasco. Even though Rome won the war, the development and outcome of the Greek-Italian War have had an influence on the growth in Italian power as well as on the motivation of the Greeks to fight against the invaders for the rest of the Second World War.

The main concerns of the thesis are the different approaches of both adversaries (the victorious Italy and the defeated Greece) to the war. The aim is to analyse the Italian and Greek national thinking, on the one hand connected with Mussolini's Italy as a European power and, on the other hand, related to the Greek national fight for freedom. The thesis also discusses the degree of social mobilisation and its role in both regimes.