This thesis is concerned with possibility of a cosmopolitan approach to democracy in the world changed by processes of globalization. The issue of globalization is analyzed from the perspective of three contemporary sociologists – Ulrich Beck, Anthony Giddens and Jan Keller. It will be shown in which way economic, cultural and political globalization changes rules of world politics. A modern concept of democracy traditionally assumed the nation-state framework, however nation-states are no longer able to react adequately to the global dimension of contemporary world issues. This fact allows thesis to open up a concept of cosmopolitanism that has ambitions to expand democratic governance at the global level.

First this thesis will introduce Kant’s cosmopolitan proposition of international legal order – a voluntary league of states. According to Kant, a perpetual peace can be achieved through realization of three spheres of public law: constitutional law, international law and cosmopolitan law. Many authors responded to Kant’s position, each of them in a quite different way. In The Law of Peoples John Rawls proposes a political conception of right and justice that applies strictly to the principles and norms of international law. On the other hand, cosmopolitan authors like David Held and Daniele Archibugi design such reform of international institutions that could eventually lead to an establishment of cosmopolitan democracy. Jürgen Habermas attempts to reconcile national politics and cosmopolitan institutions by the constitucionalization of international law. This thesis aspires to verify, on the basis of three approaches to the kantian project, whether cosmopolitan theories are relevant to a phenomen of globalization or not.