

Abstract

In my paper, I will attempt to answer the question “Is it possible to study transitions to democracy by unified models?” I will seek for an answer using cases of Romania and Portugal, the two states where non-democratic rule had elements of personal dictatorship and its overthrow had signs of a change coming from opposition. My assumption is that studying by unified model is not possible and I will try to find evidence for this statement. In my paper I use theoretical work of Samuel P. Huntington, Vladimíra Dvořáková and Jiří Kunc who study types of transitions to democracy. Dvořáková and Kunc also describe phases of these transitions. From work of Adam Przeworski I use the view of democratization causes. Using these theoretical concepts I will study specific cases of democratization in Romania and Portugal. I will use works of Miroslav Tejchman, Kurt W. Treptow, Katel Durman, Gale Stokes and Steven D. Roper in case of Romania and Jan Klíma, and especially Kenneth Maxwell in case of Portugal.