

Abstract

Main aim of this bachelor thesis is to describe Swiss semi-direct political system. Thesis proceeds from general topics - what are the differences between direct and representative democracy, what is semi-direct democracy and what the typical instruments of direct democracy are. It also describes the Swiss political system, which is currently the only functioning system that can be described as semi-direct democracy. The work deals with the functioning of the highest authorities, the Swiss party system and federalism and how the individual institutes and institutions influence elements of direct democracy. The core of the paper is focused on the functioning of the semi-direct democracy in Switzerland at federal, cantonal and local level. Thesis describes the evolution of Swiss semi-direct democracy and how it is regulated nowadays. The work also incorporates some statistical data about participation of Swiss citizens, usage of individual instruments and also describes conditions which are necessary for acceptance decisions through direct democracy process. Thesis also contains comparison with other countries, the European Union and the Czech Republic and gives some conclusions on the applicability of Swiss system of semi-direct democracy abroad.