

Summary

The main subject of this paper is the course of state and violence under the impact of processes of globalization and privatization, culminating in the beginning of 21st century. Max Weber's definition of state as the monopoly on legitimate violence within certain area is highlighted, the aim of this work is to show current unsustainability of a nation state by this definition and also to describe other possible meanings of state in globalized world. After the theoretical introduction characterization of historical process of monopolization of violence by the state follows – contemporary course looks like the exact opposite of historical process, during which the state expropriated all of the other possessors of rights to use physical force.

Next chapter depicts the present-day role of the state in globalized world and also possible re-interpretations of this role for new, cosmopolitan state, whose task should be worldwide promotion of human rights and defence against planetary self-destruction. The paper is closed by emphasis on openness of the whole process - transnational companies try to promote an opinion that there is no chance of state's survival – that is true, but only for the state defined in national, not cosmopolitan terms.