Abstract

Thesis „Project Grand Paris of Nicolas Sarkozy“ deals with a plan of the French president to completely rebuild the city of Paris. Grand Paris continues in the legacy of „Grands travaux“, architectural projects of previous French presidents such as the Louvre Pyramids or the Pompidou Centre. The main part of the work is focused on Sarkozy’s vision of administrative reorganization of the Ile-de-France region which was supposed to create a new central administrative body that would comprise Paris and surrounding suburbs. It tracks the period from the first Sarkozy’s speech in June 2007 to his retirement in May 2012. In order to clarify the context of the whole project I will present the history of changes in the Paris administration which has led to Sarkozy’s initiative.

This work will examine the reasons to start such initiative, suggested methods that would be used to implement desired changes and the impact of the 2008 municipal elections on the future form of Grand Paris. Once the left-wing parties won these elections, Sarkozy abandoned the whole idea of the administrative reorganization of the region and the project continued in a significantly limited form.