

Abstract

This thesis focuses on current situation in the USA that revolves around the legalization of marijuana from the perspective of American think tanks also known as policy institutes. The aim was to compare approaches of these institutions which differ from each other in their ideological background as well as in their proposed solution. It was necessary for a complex analysis to cast light on the institution of think tanks, their history and influence on lawmaking. Four different groups of think tanks were chosen – libertarian, conservative, centrist and liberal/progressive. It was found out that their impact is hard to measure but they certainly do have some impact. Individual think tanks propose different drug policies from legalization to decriminalization to preservation of current situation and not even two think tanks in the same ideological group share the same opinion.