Abstract
This thesis deals with the issue of same-sex marriage in California, Texas and Florida. Gay marriages is a very hot topic nowadays in the US. After the Supreme Court decision in June 2013, which struck down a law that explicitly defined marriage as a union only between a man and a woman, ensued a wave of states legalizing gay marriages. After another Supreme Court decision in October 2014 on the issue, it became legal in the majority of US states to wed couples of the same gender. Texas and Florida did not join these states. California on the contrary legalized same-sex marriages. The thesis searches for reasons of this disparity in legal status of gay marriages between the three states. Particularly it looks at political aspects of the issue. The thesis describes the political situation in the examined states and approach of the politicians to the question of same-sex marriages. It also deals with relevant court cases which are essential to the issue. From the researched outcomes it finds reasons for differences in legal status of same-sex marriages between California, Texas and Florida before the October 2014 Supreme Court decision.