

Abstract

This thesis *Stuttgart 21: public and political reflection* deals with the railway and urban project Stuttgart 21, in particular with the public and political actions related to the project. The thesis starts with summarization of the factual information about the project and follows with presentation of analyses of the actual protests, which culminated on the “black Thursday” in 2010, when the serious conflict between protesters and police officers occurred. The government reacted by arranging a settlement through the so called dialogs of conciliation, which should have helped to recover from the escalated situation. At these dialogs, which were moderated by the politician Heiner Geißler, supporters and opponents of the project and experts in the area gathered. After these dialogs, the situation calmed down mildly.

Solution of the dispute related to the Stuttgart 21 project was really important because the elections to the Landtag of Baden-Württemberg followed shortly after (March 2011). Because of the actions in connection with the Stuttgart 21 project and also because of the nuclear energy elections topic, which emerged due to the accident in Fukushima, the ‘Die Grünen’ party came into power. This party formed together with the SPD party a coalition lead by the Prime Minister Kretschmann (Die Grünen). Since the controversial Stuttgart 21 project had continued to raise disputes at this time, the government decided to organize a referendum about the continuation of the financial participation of the Baden-Württemberg federal state in the project. In November 2011, the residents voted against the withdrawal of the federal state from its financial obligations, and so indirectly approved the continuation of the project Stuttgart 21 construction. That should be finished in 2021.