

**Abstract:**

The subject of my bachelor's thesis is Portuguese attitude towards Jewish refugees during the Second World War. Portugal has in the course of time transformed from an inquisition-happy into a tolerant country. The rise of the German Nazi regime and the outbreak of Second World War had caused a diaspora which led Portugal into applying restrictive immigration and visa policies. After France lost the war Portugal has become one of few destinations and transfer points for refugees from Nazi occupied Europe. Thousands of Jewish refugees have found refuge in a country which was governed by an anti-liberal and non-democratic regime. The regime had a few common similarities with Third Reich such as tough anti-Communism and anti-liberalism. The absence of racism and anti-Semitism in "Estado Novo" was on the other hand the differentiation between those two regimes. This absence also enabled Jewish immigration into Portugal during 1930s and 1940s. The main focus of my thesis is the attitude of Salazar, Portuguese offices, the Portuguese public and foremost the Portuguese diplomacy towards persecuted Jews.