

Abstract

During the first stage of the U. S. presidential nomination process, primary elections are the predominant mechanism which the political parties apply to choose their candidates. In the 20th century, primaries became a common practice of the parties, which is considered to have made the nomination process more democratic. Despite that, there are several phenomena related to the primary elections which are considered to be problematic. The goal of this bachelor thesis is to analyze these controversial aspects of primaries. The thesis covers the nomination process of the Democratic Party and the Republican Party and attempts to emphasize the negative implications which the process of presidential nominations of these parties entails. In this case, the phenomena disadvantaging one of the actors of primaries (a group of voters, a type of candidate or one of the political parties) are considered to be negative. Based on the analysis of these phenomena, it is concluded which of them is potentially the most dangerous and the how it could be dealt with.