

Abstract

Bachelor thesis *U.S. role in escalation of the war on drugs in Mexico during the Calderón presidency* focuses on the U.S. influence on the escalation of the fight against illicit drugs in Mexico. First it describes history and development of the war on drugs since its beginning. This historical context is essential for interpreting the intensified anti-drug measures taken in Mexico after the year 2006. Then it presents the escalation of the fight and its effects during the presidency of Felipe Calderón in 2006-2012 in Mexico. It analyzes Calderón's proclaimed reasons to declare the war on drugs. Next it analyzes the influence of the U.S. on the Mexican decision to escalate the war on drugs and presents the U.S. aid to Mexican anti-drug war efforts. This thesis summarizes the development of the war on drugs and analyzes the U.S. influence on creating the Mexican anti-drug strategy after the year 2006 in the broader historical context of the war on drugs and in the context of the U.S.-Mexico asymmetrical relations.