

Abstract:

The main topic of this thesis is the Church Union Project between Greek Orthodox and West Latin Church, or, rather an attempt to unite them in order to end the schism lasting more than two centuries, realized on the Second Council of Lyon in 1274. The aim of the thesis is analysis of the geopolitical and religious situation on which was the Union Project based, and capturing the causes of its origin, but also capturing the context of the Union idea on the Council of Lyon and its acceptance in West and East Church. Particular attention was payed to Charles I of Anjou as a ruler whose ambitions of power, including the Crusade against schismatic Byzantine emperor Michael Palaiologos, and openly declared plans to seize control over Constantinople, substantially influenced negotiations about establishing the Church Union. These were led by emperor Michael Papadopulos from the very beginning of his reign and it was the serious threat to Byzantine Empire by Charles I of Anjou that made him accept the Unionist terms of popes which consequently caused strong commotions in Byzantine society.