

Abstract

The aim of the bachelor thesis is an attempt to analyze and objectively assess the attitudes of the Catholic Church led by Pope Pius XII to the question of the Holocaust and Nazism during World War II. To achieve the stated objective, a compilation of historical description will be used as the main method, while the assessment will be based on recognition, characterization and interpretation of the most distinctive differences in the perception of the role of Pius XII during World War II, particularly in relation to Nazism and the Holocaust. Another reason for choosing this topic is an effort to interpret major themes which greatly influenced the development of policies of the Holy See during World War II.

In the first chapter there are some important concepts characterized and also the base character of Vatican as a political entity. The second chapter focuses on the person of Pius XII. and his role in the signing of the Reich Concordat. The third chapter monitors the development of the Vatican policy shortly before the outbreak of the Second World War until its end. The following chapter focuses on the reasons that could have had an impact on the attitude of the Holy See in relation to Nazism and the Holocaust. At the end, the author answers the questions set out in the introductory part of the text, summarizes the information identified and evaluates the established facts.