

The aim of this master thesis is to describe current relations between political parties and the public. Considering the potential extent of the topic concerned, this thesis focuses on providing an overview of the individual phenomena which can be observed with regard to the relations.

The thesis begins with a theoretical chapter which outlines subjects of a political system. The second part focuses on a description of historical starting points of the topic concerned.

Following the necessary background information for a comprehensive understanding of the topic, the author presents the main, third part which is the core of the thesis. This part is divided into seven chapters in which the individual phenomena, concerning the current relations between political parties and the public, are introduced. The aim of the third, crucial part is not only to describe the concerned phenomena but also to critically evaluate certain measures which are meant to prevent the described problem. A summary of steps which lead to the described situation are included as well.

In the first chapter the author focuses on a crisis of the representation model, especially with regard to the issue of alienation between the representatives and the represented. The second chapter focuses on the issue of electoral volatility and the development in electoral participation as factors relevant for party system stability and interest of voters in politics. The third chapter is dedicated to the issue of decrease in voters' support for traditional political parties, which is accompanied by not only decrease in worse election results but also in a decrease in the number of members. The fourth chapter concerns political marketing and management and the enforcement of permanent campaigns. In the fifth chapter the author studies the personification of politics as a process which influences the form of current politics and initiates a lot of its changes. The sixth chapter is focused on the changes in cleavages of current politics, in particular the disappearance of the left-right division of the political spectrum and a limitation of space in which political decisions are made. The last, seventh chapter concerns negative attitude of the public towards political parties as well as politics in general. Such negative attitude which often stems from an insufficient differentiation between an ideal and realistically achievable state are usually reflected in a decreasing will of one's own political participation, disgrace towards legal norms and towards institutions of a democratic state with the rule of law in general.