

## **Abstract**

The aim of this Bachelor Thesis is to compare military effectiveness of the Iraqi army and the peshmerga, military units of the Iraqi Kurdistan in a combat against the Islamic state on Iraqi territory between 2014 and 2016. First, the Thesis addresses theories and approaches to military effectiveness itself. Second, it covers selected battles of both militaries against the IS and determines the casualty loss exchange ratio. On the basis of this, it assesses how effective these militaries are in general and in relation to each other. Third, it examines variables which influence military effectiveness of the Iraqi army and the peshmerga according to the aforementioned theories. The author of this Thesis concludes that military effectiveness of both militaries can be described as low but the effectiveness of the Peshmerga is comparatively higher in said period. A synchronic comparative method was used for this research. The data were acquired from news agencies as well as from academic literature dedicated to military affairs and to the region of the Middle East.