

Abstract

The aim of this Bachelor's thesis is to analyse and compare mixed-member electoral systems and their consequences in cases of Bolivia, Germany and New Zealand. The text is divided into three chapters. The first chapter introduces mixed-member electoral systems in general, existing research in this area, main variables of mixed-member electoral systems, and their key typologies by Massicote & Blaise and Shugart & Wattenberg. In the second chapter, causes of electoral reforms, their circumstances, main actors and their preferences are analysed. The description of individual cases is followed by cross-comparison. The final chapter concerns itself with the consequences of electoral reforms and their influence on party and political systems, as well as with changes in the candidate selection process or their individual characteristics. The description is also followed by comparison among researched countries. The main focus of this comparison is on selected characteristics of political systems: volatility, voter turnout, disproportionality and effective number of parliamentary parties. These are calculated with established statistical tools: Gallagher index, Pedersen index and Laakso-Taagepera index.