

Abstract

This bachelor thesis deals with Five Star Movement and the situation in Italy which preceded its success in parliamentary elections in 2013. First chapter is theoretical part of the thesis. It is about populism in modern democracies, as we can find it also in Italy.

It further elaborates on the conditions which are needed for the success of populism in society and on the relationship between media and populists. Next part presents the system of the parties of the Italian second republic which came up from corruption scandals in the 90's. The old party system collapsed and the new one was dominated by populist leader Berlusconi. The third chapter focuses on the Movement in detail. Its history from the beginning, when Beppe Grillo was touring Italy with his satirical show, past founding of Grillo's blog, where local groups of activist started to connect, and to the official foundation of the Movement and its participation in elections. The last chapter analyses reasons of the success of the Five Star Movement in the parliamentary elections in 2013. Important were also the local elections in 2012. Crises of the established parties, progressing economic crises and the ability of the Movement to address issues which were important for Italians and the other parties were not able to reflect are stated as the main reasons for the success of the Movement.