Diploma thesis "East Timor - The Role of the United Nations on its Way to Independence" evaluates the way of the East Timor towards independence with the involvement of the UN. Following an overview of the historical context, the thesis analyses the situation in the second half of the 20th century, focusing on the UN 's performance during Indonesia occupation and then on the popular consultation and following peace operations. Thesis tries to identify the factors that enabled the occupation lasted so long and discusses lessons to be learned from the recent peace operations.