## **Abstract**

There have been many publications written about Henry VIII. It was his private life, because of which he primarily went down in history. Henry inherited the royal throne at a very young age. The Tudor dynasty ascended the English throne just for one generation. Henry's father ended the long—standing civil war. However, the fear of its continuation still remained. The most important task for the young king was to stabilize the position of the dynasty and to protect the throne against other pretenders. His whole life Henry lived in fear, that without a male heir, his family would be brought down.

Catherine of Aragon became Henry's wife. There were many benefits from this union for England. The island kingdom was actively involved in continental policy. Nevertheless, Catherine was not able to give birth to an heir to England and fell into disgrace. Her nephew, Holy Roman Emperor, was the most powerfull ruler of the Christian Europe. Although he tried to prevent the annulment of their marriage by various means, he failed. Throughout his reign Charles was in a war conflict with the French king. He needed England like an ally against France even at the cost of his aunt's repudiation, which would remain without retaliation.