

My bachelor thesis deals with freedom of expression, as it is formulated by the European Court of Human Rights in its practice.

In the introductory part I describe the most relevant normative theories of media and I suggest, how they can be reflected in a law. I am going to demonstrate, how theory of media can influence a certain decision of a court. In my thesis I am concerned with the conflict of the right to arbitrarily spread a media content and need of our society to defend itself from extremist activities. I am describing the intricacy of the relation between democratic society and extremism. Democracy is built up on the pluralism of ideas, but some ideologies can be harmful to it. Law is a means of regulation of human behavior also in the area of mass media. I discuss how law can contribute to a correct behavior of mass media. I mention the most important instruments of human rights protection and why is the European Convention on Human Rights so significant.

My thesis focuses on analysis of chosen judgements of the European Court of Human Rights. Using these decisions I demonstrate when, under which conditions and for what reasons is it possible to limit freedom of expression. My work seeks an answer to the question, if a position of an individual differs from a position of a professional journalist, when and in which way is it permissible to question the major interpretation of history? I ask what role does the various form in which is the message published play. I explain in which areas a member state can restrict freedom of speech only marginally and when it is on the other hand justifiable.