

## **Abstract**

The thesis deals with working of single transferable vote electoral system and its effects on political system. First the system is introduced and subsequently the main benefits and deficiencies are identified. The thesis especially aims at its effects on relations between political actors, specifically at Dáil elections in Ireland. Primary focus is laid on clarifying the relation among Dáil candidates from the same party. Among them a phenomenon called intra-party competition appears. The author searches if the single transferable vote is responsible, examines the nature of the conflict and describes the consequences for relations within parties. Secondary the author focuses on the nature of relations between candidates or deputies and their constituents. He examines, if the transferable vote is responsible for increased closeness of those relations, and for significant concentration of deputies on constituency work. The author uses clientelism and brokerage concepts. The last part of the thesis deals with political parties in context of the single transferable vote. The influence on cohesion, party discipline and relations of the party centers to candidates and deputies is examined. The thesis also concerns certain tensions between party centers and local structures.