

Abstract

Canada is one of the countries dealing with the conflict of Aboriginal peoples and newcomers from Europe. Canadian government has been applying a concept of assimilation of Aboriginal peoples for decades but without success. In 1968 the liberal government of Pierre Elliot Trudeau came to power and decided to resolve this problem once and for all. Trudeau's government wanted to unify the rights of all Canadian citizens and came up with undifferentiated universal citizenship. This would mean for Aboriginal peoples to give up their special rights and status. Aboriginal reaction to the proposal came soon afterwards when they published their document called *Citizens plus*, where they opposed government's vision. They started to form political organisations and fight for their rights and recognition in the Canadian constitution. My bachelor thesis *Federal Government's changing policy toward Aboriginal peoples in Canada during the period of Pierre Elliot Trudeau* tries to answer the question, whether the 1969 white paper and Aboriginal reaction to it were the key starting moments of the struggle for differentiated citizenship in Canada. To answer this question this work uses historical background, key government documents and theoretical approaches to this subject by authors such as Charles Taylor or Will Kymlicka.