

## **Abstract**

This study follows the development of the extreme right political party NPD or more precisely the development of all relevant events that led to the attempt to ban the party in 2001. Which factors contributed to make a decision to make a motion to ban the NPD? How did the trial look like and what consequences the decision of the Constitutional Court will have for the future? Answering these questions is the aim of this study. There were several factors that led to the trial in 2001. Firstly it was the very possibility of banning a political party and the whole concept of the militant democracy as it is anchored in the „German constitution“ (Grundgesetz). The second factor was the historical transformation and the resulting radicalization of the NPD. The third and at the same time crucial factor was the relatively hectic political discussion in 2000. The trial in 2003 ultimately failed due to secret confidants. However the possibility of banning the NPD was not excluded. As a result of that, the NPD did not get rid of the threat of the ban.