

## **Abstract**

The bachelor thesis *Non-problematic Construction? A Comparison of German Society's Reaction to the Construction of the Mosques in Duisburg and Cologne* compares the construction of the Merkez Mosque in Duisburg-Marxloh with the construction of the Central Mosque in Cologne-Ehrenfeld. Despite these two mosques being structurally similar, the reaction of the German society to their construction has been completely different. The Merkez Mosque has been accepted and represents a non-problematic construction; in contrast, the Central Mosque led to a conflict while provoking protests, and it is perceived as a controversial building. This thesis aims to describe both cases in detail, to identify their similarities and differences and to understand why subsequent reaction has differed through a comparison based on pre-defined criteria. The thesis analyses two groups of factors which influence society's reaction to the mosque construction. The first group consists of structural factors such as the nature of the surrounding area, the site of the mosque and its function; the second group includes the debate between key public and civic actors who affect the construction process and also influence society's opinion. The thesis works primarily with primary sources such as Minutes of municipal administrations' sessions, project materials, or statistics. It contains also an analysis of media reaction to the reported construction, as the media is considered to influence public opinion the most.