

Abstract

This thesis critically analyzes the concepts of deliberative democracy and demarchy. Both theories are described from many different viewpoints, including criticisms aimed at elections in democratic political systems, the issue of legitimacy and representativeness. The analysis of the theory of deliberative democracy is based on the works of Bernard Manin, John Dryzek, Joshua Cohen etc. The analysis of the theory of demarchy is based on the works of John Burnheim. Both theoretical concepts are also confronted with criticisms aimed at their theoretical and practical imperfections. The thesis also deals with examples and possibilities of practical use of some elements from both theories. Finally, this thesis attempts to answer the question of whether both analyzed concepts could be satisfactory alternatives to representative democracy.