

Diploma thesis „Status of women in Turkey and changes in the context of European integration” deals with the situation of women's rights in Turkey and the reform process which has been accelerating under the accession negotiations with the European Union. It presents evaluations of the situation contained in reports by the European Commission and also implemented projects from the financial resources of the Union. From historical perspective and based on document analysis and realized interviews, of all the participants involved in improvement of women’s status the thesis is primarily concerned with the women’s movement as it still remains the most important agent in the ongoing process. The area of political decision-making mechanisms is examined in detail. General and country specific barriers for representation of women are submitted. In comparison with participation of women and adopted measures in other countries the thesis concludes that mandatory gender quotas of different types seem to be the most suitable tool to support the number of women and their interests. The paper also displays opportunities for further progress and obstructions to overcome in cooperation among all involved, and particularly between the movement and the EU, to achieve the desired result – gender equality in a potential future member state.