

Abstract

The Master thesis „The Immigration Policy of Norway after 2011“ deals with Norwegian immigration policy, specifically with changes of immigration policy which took place after 2011. In July of this year, the attacks of Andres Breivik happened in the downtown of Oslo and on the island of Utøya. In the following years, the Norwegian immigration policy began to change firstly gradually, then the changes occurred in faster pace, since the new coalition of Conservative Party and Progress Party began to rule after the General Election in autumn 2013. The goal of this Master thesis is to introduce changes in Norwegian immigration policy which took place after 2011, and find out what was behind these changes and thus was the cause of them. The thesis uses theoretical approaches explaining how policy change can happen, Punctuated Equilibrium Theory and Advocacy Coalition Framework. The first approach clarifies change of policy through period of disequilibrium which is caused by critical event. Second approach then illustrates that policy can change because the cooperation of political elite. Main research question of this Master thesis is how the Norwegian immigration policy has changed since 2011. Hypothesis then, that the Norwegian immigration policy has changed during the last few years, and not just because there were suitable conditions, but also as an impact of coordinated activity of political elite. The Master thesis applies Punctuated Equilibrium Theory and Advocacy Coalition Framework to confirm this hypothesis, conclusion describes analysis of what causes the changes in Norwegian Immigration Policy.