

## **Abstract**

This bachelor thesis examines Italy's reaction to Austrian migration policy during the refugee crisis in 2015 – 2016. During this period the Italian-Austrian relations have experienced a number of disagreements that are presented in this thesis. The main goal of this thesis is to analyze the Italian response to Austrian migrant policy and explain its causes. The first chapter describes the context of the refugee crisis in the case of Italy and Austria and the domestic political development in Italy during the crisis. The second part examines the Italian reaction to the Dublin regulation, the basis of the European Union asylum policy. The third chapter is devoted to Italy's response to the Austrian plan of the introduction of border controls at the Brenner Pass. The last chapter deals with possible Italian and Austrian proposals on the modification of the non-functioning EU asylum policy. The goal of this chapter is to explore possible parallels between the Italian and Austrian approaches to the reform of European asylum policy. The work concludes that Italy, as a result of its national interests, has responded critically to the majority of Austrian migration policy. The Italian Prime Minister has pressured the EU and Austria for the reform of the asylum policy because of his concerns about the rise of Eurosceptic parties in Italy.