Abstract

The thesis deals with the position of the Speaker of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It analyses the position of the Speakers of the parliaments in six selected cases, which are the devolved parliaments and the parliaments of Crown dependencies. The thesis aims to determine whether the position of the Speaker of the parliament in the devolved parliaments of Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, and the parliaments of Crown dependencies, namely the Isle of Man, Jersey, and Guernsey, is derived from the British model. The first part of the thesis introduces the institution of the Speaker of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom and its significant position within the Westminster Parliament. The thesis then examines the position of the Speakers of the devolved parliaments of Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, which were established as part of the devolution process in 1998. It then analyses the position of the Speakers in the parliaments of the Isle of Man, Jersey, and Guernsey, which have been Crown dependencies of the United Kingdom since 1801. The last part of the thesis compares the selected cases with the case of the United Kingdom, identifying the shared and different aspects of the position of the Speakers of the parliaments. The thesis should answer the question of whether the position of the Speaker of the Parliament in the selected cases is established in the similar way as in the case of the British Speaker.