

Abstract

The bachelor thesis deals with the role of the European Parliament in decision-making process in European Union under the co-decision procedure. By using the theory of liberal integovernmentalism it reflects on whether the position of the Parliament is mainly influenced by preferences of its political groups, or whether the national interests of those backbenchers, who depending on their position in the institution are able to influence this position, also play the role. The paper focuses on the case study of the Services Directive, which during its negotiations became a subject of many changes. Most controversial issues of the draft were a scope of the Directive and newly introduced country-of-origin principle. The first part of the paper introduces different paradigms of the European integration, which could influence decision-making process. The second part presents key players of the negotiations within the Parliament. The third part itself focuses on the case study, mainly on the preferences of those key players during the development of the position of this institution. It later shows how those key players are able to assert their position in the Parliament and during the inter-institutional negotiations. The paper mainly focuses on the possibilities of those key players to promote the national interests of their countries within the Parliament structure.