

This thesis deals with the issue of inter-party conflicts between the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and the Christian Social Union in Bavaria (CSU) and their perception in the German public. Both parties are conservative popular parties based on Christian values. Through the method of an interpretive case study, the thesis analyses the period in which conflicts between the parties peaked. It concerns Horst Seehofer's relationship with Angela Merkel and their opposing views on migration policy and the situation during the power struggle in the Union between Markus Söder and Armin Laschet. The timeframe of the thesis is the entire 19th parliamentary term, which lasted between 2017 and 2021. Using opinion polls and articles, or media accounts, the thesis analyses the rise or fall of public interest in these parties and the social discourse associated with these disputes.