

Abstract

This bachelor's thesis deals with the topical issue of the asylum policy, which is one of the most pivotal topics in contemporary German politics. It focuses on the state politics of Baden-Württemberg and deals with one political party, namely the Christian Democratic Union of Germany, which is one of the key actors on the state level. This thesis analyses the period 2011–2021, so it intentionally avoids the Ukrainian refugee crisis as a consequence of Russian aggression. The bachelor's thesis presents basic information about the position of the CDU on asylum policy and provides the historical context of immigration to Germany and specifically to Baden-Württemberg. Afterwards, it analyses the development of the attitude towards the asylum policy of CDU Baden-Württemberg's key personalities chronologically, also analysing the argumentation of their stances, for which primary and secondary sources are used. The primary sources are session protocols from the Landtag of Baden-Württemberg; the secondary sources are regional news articles and several chosen monographs, which serve to provide the thesis with political and social context, which is crucial for a more precise interpretation of CDU Baden-Württemberg politicians. Based on the conducted analysis, one may conclude that the biggest shift in attitude occurred in the autumn 2015 when the euphoria over accepting war refugees from Syria faded away and the "Love Thy Neighbour" stance on refugees turned out to be somewhat exacerbated and somewhat naïve, which became the main impulse for the reassessment of their attitude towards asylum policy, its subsequent shift to a more conservative and strict stance on this issue, and systematic enforcement of the strictest course in this area, if one neglects the populist political subjects on the German political scene.