

Abstract

This thesis describes the situation of indigenous people in Australia. However, before it is possible to approach the Australian aborigines, it is necessary to outline some theoretical concepts that can be used in the investigation of this issue. In this case, theories from the field of International Relations and International Law will provide us with basics framework. International organizations are also significantly involved in the whole issue, and they are also discussed in this thesis. This list is followed by examples from Sweden, Norway, Canada and New Zealand. All these countries have their own indigenous people and each of them has taken a different approach in dealing with the issue of their respected minority. Their examples show us where Australia could go. Thesis then examines the concepts and changes introduced by individual Australian governments since 1970. Emphasis is placed on distinguishing the Labor Party and Liberal Party governments, as we expect differences in the chosen approaches. A constructed timeline and selected laws and court decisions are used to analyse these differences.