Summary

This bachelor's thesis deals with the doctrine of justification, which is a central part of Christian dogmatics. Justification became the leading theological reason for the split in the Western Church at the time of the Reformation. Protestant and Catholic theology subsequently held mutually unacceptable positions until the mid-20th century. The theological rapprochement manifested by the ecumenical movement experienced a breakthrough with Hans Küng, a then unknown Swiss Catholic theologian. In his work Rechtfertigung, he thoroughly examined both the Catholic doctrine given by the Council of Trent and contemporary Protestantism represented by K. Barth, he came to the discovery that, on the whole, there was substantial agreement between the two denominations. His conclusion was developed over the next four decades at the international level of ecumenical theology, with the greatest success being achieved with the Joint Declaration of the Catholic Church and the Lutheran World Federation in 1999.

I have chosen this topic because I am close to the ecumenical mindset and consider it a necessary prerequisite for a concise interpretation of the Christian message, whose diversity of meaning is distributed among confessionally differentiated Christianity. In Hans Küng I admire his theological insight, literary and intellectual sophistication.

The work consists of four chapters. The first briefly introduces milestones in the thought development of justification. The second introduces Hans Küng's theology of justification. The third discusses Küng's solution to the confessional controversy. The fourth highlights Küng's contribution to subsequent ecumenical dialogue.