

**Abstract:**

This thesis analyze institutional and political circumstances, which allowed and influenced the Scottish referendum of independence in september 2014. It discribes political development and situation in Scottish Parliament and Government from the creation of devolution to 2014. As a metodological tools this thesis use theories of Institutionalism, Multi – level governance and performance politics. It focuses on the pre-referendum debate as well. Main sources are official reports of departments of Her Majesty Government and White paper of Scottish Government for the referenda, both are combined with reports from BBC. It shows limitations and extentions of institutional influence and reach towards independence.

**Key words:** Great Britain, Scottish Parliament, Scottish Government, SNP, Alex Salmond, referendum,BBC