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<p>Tiivistelmä-Referat-Abstract</p> <p>In this Master's thesis I will discuss the European Parliament and the consequences that led to the Treaty of Nice, in order to understand how the representation in the European Parliament is changing relating to the enlargement of the European Union in 2004. I will also study the advantages and disadvantages of large versus small units. In addition the thesis contains a short comparison of different electoral systems within the old member states as well as discusses representation and proportionality. My theories are mainly based on texts by Robert A Dahl and Edward R. Tufte, Aarend Lijphart as well as Leif Lewin and Jan Nordberg. In the course of the study I will use statistical as well as comparative methods.</p> <p>The representation of the citizens in the member states of the European Union is an important factor to take into consideration while examining the European Parliament. This thesis contains a comparison between the Members of Parliament (MEP) of 2004 and the average citizen in the European Union. Sociopolitical variables as age, education and remuneration are examined. I will also look into the election turn out in the different member states of the European Parliament election in 2004.</p> <p>One part of the thesis is a comparison of the amount of MEPs in the European Parliament in 1999 and five years later in 2004 when the Treaty of Nice was applied. The differences in representation among the member states do not change after the enlargement. However, small national parties in the small member states suffer from a decrease of representation, while overall the small member states are better represented. I have also looked into (dis-) proportionality in the representation of the member states.</p>		
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