

Verfassungsrechtliche Adaptionen / Innovationen des Kleinstaates. Das Beispiel Österreich

Summary

1. The development of the Austrian constitutional law offers plenty of illustrative material which is showing processes of adaptations and innovations. The actual constitutional system contains many elements of the constitution from 1867 which was established for a large-scale state.
2. With a lot of modifications and adaptations the constitution of the Austrian monarchy (1867-1918) has been received by the republic system in 1918/1920. In the beginning, this was intended to be a temporary solution, but finally it proved as a supportable basis for further political and constitutional development.
3. In the years 1933/34 democracy perished in Austria. This was not caused by faults of the constitution but by failure of politics.
4. In 1945 the constitution of the first republic was re-established. In the second republic constitutional law and constitutional understanding changed but in its essence it stayed the same as before.
5. In the future the development of constitution will be dominated by european integration. Maybe this could finally lead to the end of autonomous constitutional life.