

Verfassungsinterpretation im Kleinstaat. Das Fürstentum Liechtenstein zwischen Monarchie und Demokratie

Summary

The constitution of Liechtenstein had been established in 1921 after the decline of the Central European monarchies, but in accordance with the legal tradition of the old German Confederacy (Deutscher Bund). That is why in Liechtenstein the authority of the state is based both on the monarch and on the nation. Whereas however in Austria-Hungary and in Germany the government got its office by the emperor in Liechtenstein a cooperation between the prince and the parliament is necessary, so today the interpretation of the constitution of Liechtenstein cannot go by the rules of the old monarchical Austrian and German legal system, but has to form its own methods. The interpretation of a constitutional charter nowadays is an open process, in which many social forces participate. In so far common European cultural and legal traditions are highly important, especially for small states. As an example the article points out, that only the government has to assume full responsibility for political decisions of general principles - according to the democratic system, which is fundamental to political life in Liechtenstein.