

TÍTULO DA TESE EM INGLÊS: The diplomatic relations between South Korea and the Japan: the 'Comfort Women' case of Korea

The aim of this thesis work is to comprehend, analyse and present possible solutions for the case of the 'Comfort Women', which took place during the period of Japanese invasion of the Korean peninsula, in order to understand the reason why the negotiations concerning the 'Comfort Women' problem were a diplomatic and social failure for the Republic of Korea and Japan, by analysing how this issue affected and may continue to affect the diplomatic and political relationship of each country in the future.

The diplomatic relations between South Korea and Japan have been gradually improving; however, due to the frequent change of government and political agenda of each country, there have constantly been oscillations and misunderstandings, as far as historical events are concerned. Abe Shinzo's current Japanese government has manifested that there will be no more negotiations with South Korea concerning this particular matter, while the new president of the Republic of Korea, Jae In Moon, refuses to accept the last agreement signed by the ousted president Gueun Hye Park, declaring that the decision did not take into account the opinions of the surviving victims.

In such a context, the intention of this thesis is to answer the following questions: In which internationally recognised right can Korea's claim to these compensations be possibly based? What are the responsibilities that the surviving victims intend for the Japanese government to assume? Which are the next steps that each government could take in order to reach a final agreement?

Palavras Chave: 'Comfort Women', moral responsibility, Human Rights, compensation, official acknowledgement, nationalism and gender.