

## **Abstract**

This thesis will concentrate its focus on the integration of the Republic of Albania in the European Union economy and its development since the fall of the left-wing regime in the early 1990s. More specifically this study will focus on the banking system of Albania and how this sector is working towards a future integration in the European Union. It will also make use of the Central Bank of Albania, its attitude and support, implemented policies and improvements towards acceptance in the EU. This thesis will investigate the literature surrounding this topic and the implemented policies and regulations in the banking system, which are meant to help with the integration process. The aim of this research is to determine how well is the banking system and the Central Bank of Albania working towards integration in the European Union economy. The way to achieve results and to provide a correct answer to this question was done through interviews. This study follows the qualitative approach, which translates to the researcher conducting interviews with experts and employees on the field. A total of 12 interviews, with some of the most devoted and well-informed professionals, who are employed in the banking system, were run. After a careful examination process of the data, the researcher provides the results and findings of this study.