

# **Proofs for the Existence of God in Descartes' Principles of Philosophy**

## ***Summary***

In present bachelor's degree work, a short review of Descartes' arguments for the God's existence is given. After a brief explanation of the structure of Descartes' system and of the basic philosophical terms used by Descartes in his works, the fundamental role of arguments for the God's existence in developing of Descartes' system is described. This introduction makes the reader familiar with the subject of the present work; the individual versions of Descartes' arguments are presented in a concise form. Then the Principles' version of the arguments is shown in comparison with other versions, first of all, with that ones from Meditations. The ontological argument is attended and it's simplicity is noted, particularly in Principles. It is shown a close connection between Descartes and the scholastic tradition consisting in Descartes's using and developing of a unique, sophisticated solution of the traditional problem of relation between essence and existence of finite beings (the theory of rational distinction), extended by Descartes to the nonfinite substance as well. The effectiveness of this version of the ontological argument makes it, at least partly, resistant to a whole set of the most common objections including the famous Kant's one (that the existence is not a property or predicate). In the last part of present thesis, Descartes' cosmological arguments are explained and a scheme of its structure is written.

## **Key Words:**

Descartes', proofs, existence of God, arguments, Principles