Abstract
For full-fledged functionality, the implementation of the liberal version of democracy explicitly distinguishes between adversaries and enemies, the former being the true players in the political arena. This idea has trodden a long path before words finally reached their definite shape within each political culture. In this connection, David Hume (1711-1776) made significant contributions by theoretically sketching the need to accept political parties. Several of his Political essays are analyzed in this article, and its conclusions address the relation between his ideas and contemporary democracy.

Keywords
David Hume; Political parties; Democracy; Republicanism; Legitimacy