

Abstract

This dissertation has aimed at investigating the factors that might challenge intelligence cooperation among Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia within the Visegrad Group. In particular, in this study, it has been researched whether four of the potential factors that can work as challenges to intelligence cooperation are present in the case of the Visegrad Group's cooperation. In order to determine which factor can challenge multinational intelligence cooperation, the relevant literature has been consulted based on the models of cooperation that mostly resembled the Visegrad's. In order to test which factors could apply to the V4 cooperation and answer the research question of this dissertation, a comparative study of the data collected from secondary and primary sources has been conducted. The cases discussed in the analysis include, in the first chapter, Visegrad's countries trade relations/partners and their attitudes and policy interests with respect to Russia and the EU's future; and, in the second chapter, V4's military cooperation (within NATO and the EU), defence sector's capabilities, national security strategy, and citizens' opinion about V4's geopolitical belonging. From the results it has emerged that of the four factors analysed in this dissertation, only two are likely to be present in the case of Visegrad. The findings might be used then as a tool for other researchers to find solutions to these factors and fostering intelligence cooperation within the Visegrad Group.