Název práce: Mezinárodní režim ochrany klimatu ve světle závazků vybraných smluvních stran Rámcové úmluvy OSN o změně klimatu

Autor práce: PhDr. Ing. Přemysl Štěpánek

Školitel: Doc. PhDr. Jan Karlas, M.A., Ph.D.

Pracoviště: Univerzita Karlova, Fakulta sociálních věd, Institut politologických studií, Katedra mezinárodních vztahů.

Rok obhajoby: 2018

Abstract

To complement the current research on countries' action in relation to global public goods, this dissertation examines the strength of UNFCCC Parties' emission commitments and the influence of selected factors derived from rationalism and constructivism on the strength of these commitments in two different contexts, under the Copenhagen Accord (2009) and the Paris Agreement (2015). Using a multiple linear regression analysis on the sample of 27 and 54 cases in the first and the second period, respectively, and as well as through case studies on three important UNFCCC Parties with a strong commitment and variance in values of the independent variables (the European Union, the Russian Federation, South Africa), the conclusions are as follows.

The regression analysis in both contexts showed, in line with the assumptions, the positive influence of two factors on the strength of commitments, namely *the share of alternative and nuclear energy* and *economic wealth*. The positive effect of *economic wealth* can be seen as a sign that, even in the case of the Copenhagen Accord and the Paris Agreement, which do not prescribe a specific amount of emission commitments for individual Parties, a well-known pillar of the international climate regime - the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities - is manifested.

The EU and South Africa case studies confirmed the positive effect of domestic political variables and variables, such as *membership in selected multilateral environmental treaties*, *operation of selected international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and domestic NGOs involved in international networks* and *engagement in international climate diplomacy* on respective Parties' emission commitments strength. In addition, the EU has the expected relationship between most selected economic variables and a strong commitment. The case of the Russian Federation points to the typical features of the most former Soviet Union countries, when most of the examined variables do not correspond to the declared strong commitment, apart from two variables in both periods - *membership in selected multilateral environmental treaties* and *geographical affiliation*, as well as one variable in the second period - *economic wealth*. The studies confirmed: (i) the characteristics of the EU as a leader of international climate policy with the potential to maintain that position, (ii) furthermore, the ambivalent RF attitude to global climate issues that can be also expected in the future, and (iii) the role of South Africa as a regional leader in the international climate regime, which at the same time represents a developing country with a relatively progressive climate policy.

As a recommendation to facilitate the adoption of stronger emission commitments it seems appropriate in the light of the regression analysis results to promote an increase in the share of energy from non-fossil, i.e. alternative and - where economically and politically viable - nuclear resources, and also to promote economic growth, which will take into account environmental considerations. This will also require a positive supportive role of domestic

political factors as demonstrated by the EU and South Africa case studies and the continued involvement of states or regional blocks in relevant international treaties as the positive role of this variable has been demonstrated in all three case studies.
