

Abstract

This thesis deals with the topic of international arms trade. More particularly, it deals with the arms trade in three chosen countries – the United States, Sweden and Russia. In general, this work brings coherent data and analyzes the arms trade issue, especially in the countries chosen for this academic work. The aim is to present arms trade problematics of these three countries to the reader as well as to bring the valuable analyzes on the chosen topic and finally to compare the case countries in order to find the differences and common characteristics. The main goal of this thesis is to find the answers on the research questions. The two most important research questions are: What are the current trends and future of the international arms trade in the U.S., Sweden and Russia? How does the arms trade differ in these countries? The first research question is focused on present and future development of arms trade, on the other hand second one gives partially comparative nature to the thesis. The thesis is based on comparative case study method. Through the deep examination of this three case countries the work comes to the answers designed in the research questions. Thesis concludes the raising importance of the arms trade as the instrument of influence. In addition, growing of volume of arms trade will be very likely rising in the case countries (except for occasional downturns). Finally, all the three case countries have common status of technologically well developed country and sharing a lot of common characteristics, but it is important to point out that the policy of arms trade, forms, defense industrial base as well as the range and intensity have their specifics and thus the countries are different in this point.