

Abstract

This bachelor thesis describes one of the most turbulent periods in Iranian history. When Muhammad Mosaddek came to power in 1950 and became Prime Minister of Iran, he enforced the law to nationalize the oil company AIOC, which was under control of Great Britain, which also owned majority of the company's concessions. The nationalization thus provoked an immediate dispute with the British government, which began to take action to return the oil company back to its own control. Not only diplomatic but also military and covert political activities began, which aimed to gradually weaken Mossadek's position so that he could be removed in the event of a failure of diplomatic negotiations. The United States initially vehemently protested against such activities. President Truman believed that the escalation of the situation in Iran could cause the country to tend towards the Soviet Union and thus cause communism to penetrate the Middle East. However, as the situation gradually escalated and the necessary agreement was still not reached, the Americans began to reconsider their position. This change of attitude eventually culminated into the organization of a coup through which MI6 and mainly CIA overthrew Muhammad Mosaddek, bringing Iran into a period of more than 20 years of dictatorship. In the first part, this work aims to thoroughly map the period from the beginning of the oil dispute to the final change of American position in conflict. In the second, it analyzes the role of the MI6 and CIA secret services in organizing the coup and also its implementation.