

Abstract

Diploma thesis „The Political and Economic Relations of Spain and Morocco: interdependence or a security question? “ deals with the political and economical relations of Spain and Morocco from the end of the 1950's to the present. The relationship between these two countries is based not only on mutual cooperation and support but also on mutual rivalry. The most sensitive area almost throughout the analyzed period is the fishing policy, and the territorial dispute over Western Sahara, Ceuta and Melilla, Sidi Ifni (Leila) and the island Isla de Perejil (arabic Leila).

The main hypothesis of the thesis is that the relationship of Spain and Morocco corresponds to the neo-liberal theory and therefore a priority in their mutual relations is the economic objectives and to ensure the prosperity. The relation of these two countries doesn't correspond to the neo-realistic theory and the security objectives don't have high priority.

We verified this hypothesis by using the Congruance Method, the comparative method of the study period and by the dependent and independent variables. Dependent variable include the political and economic relations and the independent variables include the economic reform in Morocco, mutual bilateral cooperation, fishing policy, the various Spanish governments' policies towards the Moroccan government and certain territorial disputes.

As a result, we confirmed the hypothesis in all analyzed periods. Moroccan-Spanish relations correspond to the neo-liberal theory and they are based on a close economic cooperation, which in many cases affects the individual policy decisions.