

The question of Taiwan and One China constitutes one of the most important problems of current geopolitics. However, it is based on a vague construct, which is interpreted differently by different parties involved. The interpretations, as well as manipulations of this vague concept, have an impact on practical politics and directly affect not only the Taiwanese people, but also stability in the region, and its destabilization would pose a grave security threat for the whole international community.

This thesis thus examines the relationship between the construct and reality. It analyses the practical effects of the different interpretations of the construct of One China. Applying critical discourse analysis, the text first examines the history of Taiwan and its usage in various national myths of both the Republic of China and the People's Republic of China, then describes the view of international law on the sovereignty over Taiwanese territory, after that examines the practical politics of the PRC, ROC, USA and the UN, and finally analyses the Taiwanese people's identity and agency to defend their identity, way of life, political freedoms, and ultimately, their statehood.