

Abstract

Diploma thesis Issues in British-American relations: the Falklands War deals with the special relationship between Great Britain and the United States and analyses in particular relations between their leading political figures – American president Ronald Reagan and British prime minister Margaret Thatcher. The aim of the thesis is to find out whether the special relationship played any role during the Falkland Islands War in 1982.

The theoretical part is focused on the search for a definition of the term special relationship. I found different definitions of special relationship, but no universal one exists. The thesis operates with the definition of John Dumbrell, who says that the special relationship existed, specifically during the Cold War. The analytical part examines British-American cooperation during the above-mentioned conflict and the role of the United States as a mediator.

The diploma thesis concludes that the special relationship played a role in the Falkland Islands War. It was reflected in the two countries' military, satellite, and intelligence cooperation. Even the personal relationship between Reagan and Thatcher confirmed the existence of a special relationship. The role of the US as a mediator was criticized as it proved to be non-neutral. Also, it was concluded that the special relationship was not confirmed in the political sphere of both countries.