

Annotation

The topic of the bachelor thesis is the emancipation of Kazakhstan from the hegemony of Russia in the period following the annexation of Crimea. The annexation of Crimea seriously damaged the global security architecture, because of which Kazakhstan began to worry about its position on the international political scene. Among the Central Asian states, it is Kazakhstan that is most oriented towards Russia.

Then, since 2014, Russia's aggressive rhetoric regarding Kazakhstan's legitimacy and pro-Russian claims on the issue of border disputes between Russia and Kazakhstan began. Specifically, this is happening in the northern part of Kazakhstan, where these disputes continue to this day. It is this rhetoric that is perceived in Kazakhstan as a threat and a warning to the Russian world. For at least the last five years, Kazakhstan has been trying to build its international policy and build relations with world powers such as the US, the EU, China, and Turkey.

The bachelor thesis will therefore subsequently examine the research question: Is it possible for a multi-vector foreign policy to lead to Kazakhstan's emancipation from Russia?

As announced, the thesis will examine Russian-Kazakh relations in the period after the annexation of Crimea, up to the present. During my thesis, I will gradually examine multi-vector politics from the perspective of neorealist theory, in which states seek to play in different sub-regional arenas or operate in different spheres simultaneously. I will also explain strategies of multi-vector politics such as *balancing*, *bandwagoning*, and *emancipation* that are central to my thesis. The next section of this research is chosen to examine Kazakhstan's international relations with the US, EU, China, and Turkey.

Key words:

Kazakhstan, Russia, emancipation, multi-vector policy, relation, hegemony