

Abstract

The thesis analyses the security policy of Great Britain within the context of the security policy of the European Union. By using comparison of New Labour's approach to security policy during the first and second term of Tony Blair in the years 1997-2005, the thesis aims to answer the question whether New Labour managed to keep the pro-European tendencies of Great Britain during both of the terms. The analysis concludes that New Labour failed to maintain its vision of pro-European shift of Great Britain. Since 2001, there is a distinctive shift from European security policy to the American one. Great Britain was mainly interested in its overseas ally at the expense of the European partner after 2001.

Partial research question is whether the European security and defence policy was successful or not in promoting the proclaimed objectives within the European Union and whether Great Britain used its security policy to obtain more significant position within the EU. Answer to such question is that Great Britain used its security policy to obtain greater position for negotiation within the EU during the first term of Tony Blair in year 1997-2001 and that in security and defence policy, we talk about New Labour's success in promoting the proclaimed objectives throughout the European Union.

Second partial research question is whether there was a noticeable change of priorities in British approach to security policy after the 9/11 and whether Great Britain deviated from European to American security policy since 2001. I came to the conclusion that there is a distinctive shift from European security to the American one during the second term of Tony Blair.