Abstract

This master thesis *The emergence of the Common energy policy of the EU in the context of the EU-Russia energy cooperation* aims to answer the question of whether Russia with its aggressive energy policy (gas crisis, gas pipeline projects) stands behind the EU’s inability to advance a strong Common energy policy despite all its efforts. By analysing the member states’ behaviour in relation to the key development in the energy field, we will be able to assess Russia’s influence. The thesis will then demonstrate that it is the divergent national policies of the member states that stand behind the EU’s inability to push forward a Common energy policy. The member states, in the pursuit of the maximization of benefits, support the Common energy policy only if it aligns with their national interests. The categorization of the member states based on their dependence on Russian gas and the size of their gas markets in relation to Russian gas exports will provide broadly representative conclusions about the member states behaviour towards the Common energy policy based on these two variables.