

Abstract

This bachelor thesis is a case study which had as a goal to explore whether the veto of General Charles de Gaulle has as an objective to promote or ensure French national interest. Another aim of the paper was to answer whether de Gaulle's policy towards European Economic Community had in the first place geopolitical or economic character. Generally, de Gaulle's policy towards EEC and his decisions taken in European affairs are considered mainly in the geopolitical terms. This thesis set a goal to confirm or disprove this proposition through analyzing debate between the supporters of liberalism and realism. Through this analysis I have come to the conclusion that French national interest in de Gaulle's policy towards European Economic Community and reasons he vetoed British appeal to join the Community can't be seen only in geopolitical terms. As Moravcsik argues, economic roots and an effort to satisfy interest groups – French farmers – are evident in de Gaulle's policy. Economic reasons had at least same (or even higher) importance as geopolitical ones. Nevertheless, clear and definite answer to question whether the dominant theme in veto and national interest was Economy or Geopolitics still can't be given.