

Given the enduring importance of the United States and its superpower status, American foreign policy represents a suitable topic for a detailed analysis. The focusing on Poland and the U.S. foreign policy related to it enables to find factors influencing the process of foreign policy-making and to examine the level of their impact. Selecting Poland can be explained by its great potential and rising importance within European politics as well as the long-lasting partnership between Poland and the United States that has been developed over the years. The characterization of factors influencing the formulation of the U.S. foreign policy enables understanding of tendencies and changes in the U.S. approach towards Poland. Contemporary foreign policy is not solely affected by current developments, but also the historical context and circumstances can have impact on its formulation and current shape. The formation of the American approach towards Poland is not completely isolated from other processes and therefore its final outcome depends on subsequent variables such as general American foreign orientation, the relations with Russia or the course of the general security situation. Dynamic development of events since 2001 shows how these new circumstances can be projected into the shape of foreign policy and simultaneously allows us to follow the processes that are being initiated by the U.S. approach in Poland itself.