Abstract

The topic of the master thesis is putting together two subjects that always sharply polarize academic, but also political and public debate – euroscepticism and Nobel Peace Prize. Through an analysis of primarily negative debate that followed after awarding Nobel Peace Prize to European Union in 2012 the master thesis is aiming to answer the question to what extent it was the topics typical for euroscepticism that shaped this debate. The paper is operating with a hypothesis that it was this critical phenomenon, typical only for EU, being the main component of the negative debate overshadowing expected criticism with regard to the purpose of the award. For the second hypothesis which anticipates that the topics of euroscepticism make the EU specific laureate is necessary to compare this case with three other international organizations (and their criticism) that were recently awarded with the Nobel Peace Prize. These organizations include Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (laureate in 2013), Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2007) and United Nations (2001).

The first chapter introduces the Nobel Peace Prize and its specifications. The topics typical for euroscepticism are generated in the second part through academic debate on both party politics euroscepticism and public euroscepticism. It is so because the database for the case studies is news database Factiva which brings both political and public debate. The four following chapters are case studies of each individual organization and of the debate that they faced after receiving the award. The findings of these case studies are evaluated in the concluding part which includes the answer to the research question and presents the implications that arise from the research itself.