Abstract

The aim of this bachelor thesis is to clarify the role played by units of the Czechoslovak Legion in recognition of the Czechoslovak Foreign Resistance Movement by the Entente Powers. For the formulation of hypotheses were used postulates of classical realism by H. Morgenthau that highlight the crucial role of military force in assessing the relevance of international political actors. Therefore, the empirical part of this study firstly describes the evolution of military units that were formed immediately after the outbreak of war on the initiative of Czech and Slovak compatriots abroad. The political leadership of Czechoslovak Independence Movement after a dispute about the goals and means of resistance formed in the year 1916 to the Czechoslovak National Council. However, Entente Powers had until mid- 1918 interest in maintaining the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which they considered as an important element of the balance of power in Central Europe. The turning point in their thinking occurred in connection with the revolt of the Czechoslovak Legions in Russia against the Bolsheviks in May 1918. As my research showed, mastering large parts of Siberia and vital Trans-Siberian Railway by Czechoslovak troops was a decisive factor in the unprecedented recognition of the Czechoslovak National Council, as a government of nonexisting Czechoslovak state.