

Abstract

This bachelor thesis deals with American foreign policy towards Cuba after President Barack Obama became president. The main objective of this work is to answer how the US-Cuban relationship has changed since 2009, and to show the positive approach of the new president and his government administration towards Cuba and their share on these changes. The thesis analyses factors that resulted in gradual releasing of political tension between the US and Cuba, events that contributed to this process over the years 2009–2014 and steps that US and Cuban governments have undertaken to develop mutual cooperation. The work focuses mainly on the influence throughout presidency of Obama and his efforts to start negotiations with Cuban government. Along with this, the thesis analyses matters that prevented and still partly prevent full recovery of US-Cuban future cooperation, such as economic embargo imposed on Cuba and lack of Cuban respect for human rights. The author comes to conclusion that recovery of diplomatic relations between the US and Cuba in December 2014 is mainly the result of forthcoming policy of Barack Obama, who refused to go on in non-functional form of the anti-Cuban policy, applied by most American Presidents since the 60s. Thanks to Raul Castro's willingness to cooperate in joint negotiations and liberal approach of Barack Obama to the Cuban policy, the two presidents managed to restore mutual relations officially, supported by public resistance to a rigid policy towards Cuba, lasting for over fifty years.