

Abstract

The subject of this bachelor thesis is the case study of U.S-China trade disputes under the World Trade Organization (WTO) after China's accession to the WTO. Firstly I will briefly outline the US-China relations from 1949 to 2001. I will then focus on China's incentives of becoming a part of the multilateral system and the impact of China's accession to the WTO on US-China trade. Second part concentrates on the development of foreign trade between the US and China as well as on the structural problems of Chinese economy that prevents China from doing smooth business with the US. Appreciation of China's currency renminbi, huge trade deficit of the US, complicated access to the Chinese market and many others are all among the problematic areas. Even though China has pledged to fulfill a whole range of commitments, it doesn't always abide by the rules. Some of the cases mentioned often cause friction between China and its trading partners, including the US, which are often brought to the Dispute Settlement (DS) under the WTO. Following a brief outline of the DSM, I will then focus on the China's evolution in the Dispute settlement system. During the first years of China's membership in the WTO, the members rarely challenged China before the court. However, after the end of China's five-year transitional period, China often became a subject of complaints raised by its significant trade and business partners, including the USA. In my thesis I will deal with the disputes concerning the intellectual property rights, lack of health and security standards of goods and in general, insufficient fulfillment of obligations that China has committed to. On these particular cases I would like to analyze to what extent China complied with its obligations and what impacts has China's behavior on its trade relations with the USA. In the end I reach a conclusion that although China has implemented a whole range of commitments resulting from its entry into WTO, there is a lot to be improved. United States should continue to pursue China to adhere to the WTO rules not only to eliminate trade frictions in the future, but also because China's sustainable economic growth will strengthen American exports and therefore boost global economic growth