

Abstract

This thesis analyzes the newly established U.S. National Ocean Policy. Through a content analysis of all obtained sources concerning the opinions on the policy, the main hypothesis is either confirmed or disproved. It can be assumed that Republicans would oppose this policy from obvious ideological reasons, whilst Democrats would support this policy, because it originated from their administrative and follows their positive approach to environmental issues. The ocean is not only for the United States, but also for the whole world an important source of food and various minerals, affects weather, produces a great amount of oxygen and absorbs noticeable amount of pollutants. Its economic potential for the United States is imperative and the worsening conditions of the ocean ecosystems represent an enormous potential threat to the future economic prosperity of the United States. President Barack Obama reinforced this ocean policy, which should response to the worsening conditions of the ocean, aim focus on the improvements of the ocean management and simultaneously enhance the protection of the ocean ecosystems. This policy began its journey in 2010 and was finished on paper in 2013. Its implementation will take many years, during which this political framework should lead to improvement of the ocean management and simultaneously enhance the economic activities that are related to the ocean access. This policy provoked many opinions from political sphere, environmental groups and non-governmental organizations. These opinions are analyzed through a content analysis in this thesis and its results are used to confirm or disprove the main hypothesis.