

Abstract

During the formative years of the American political system, the presidency has adopted so called unilateral tools, by which the President is able to enforce his agenda without the need of consent from the Congress or judiciary court. However, these tools are not written in the Constitution and their amount and means of usage has changed throughout time. The aim of this bachelor thesis is to study the factors that have caused these changes, specifically the unilateral tool of executive orders. The thesis analyses executive orders issued by the current president of the United States, Barack Obama, whose governing tenure is often characterized by frequent use of executive orders. It also examines whether and how these executive orders can be evaluated from the perspective of the Constitution. The result of the thesis serves as an introduction to the issue of these controversial presidential acts with the need of further study within the complexity of the American political system.