Abstract

This bachelor thesis aims at describing impact of energy policy of Barack Obama during his two terms as american president on US-Saudi relations. Concretely reactions from Saudi Arabia on these policy decisions with chronologic analysis and emphasis on movement of world oil prices. Core of these thesis could be divided into three parts. First on eis fall of oil prices which took place against the backdrop of the Global Financial Crisis. Second is period of stable oil prices between 2009-2014 with huge tight oil development. Last one is fall of oil prices after June 2014. Each of these periods had its own impact on US-Saudi relations.

This analysis shows change in Saudi traditional role as swing producer between 2008 and 2014. Main reasons were behaviour of producents like Ira nor Russia in 2008 downcycle and mentioned development of tight oil production in US, which both were perceived as a threat by Saudi Arabia. Analysis also shows that although president Obama to some extend managed to achieve american energy independence on imported oil it does not solve american energy security issue. Main security threat stays american incapability of controling world oil prices.