

The Reform of the United Nations Security Council through the Enlargement of its Members

Abstract

This master thesis focuses on the topic which has been discussed in the international community for several decades. Security Council is responsible for maintaining peace and security in the world since the organization was founded. In order to carry out this task, it has been endowed with several prominent powers, from which the most important and controversial at the same time is the right to veto, with the ability to block any resolution. The structure of the Security Council was established after the end of the Second World War and it has not been changed since then, besides the reform in 1963. This fact negatively affects proper functioning of the Security Council in today's world, which has changed rapidly since 1945, and reduces its legitimacy because of the insufficient representation of the UN members. The organization was founded by 51 states, but since then the membership has increased almost four times and today there are already 193 countries in the UN. Nowadays, there are several reform groups that want to achieve different progresses in different ways. But in most of these cases there have been attempts to increase the number of members of the Security Council - both permanent and elected. The three major groups are G4, Uniting for Consensus and African Union. The aim of the thesis is to consider the proposal of the G4 group represented by Germany, Japan, Brazil and India which struggle for permanent seats in the Security Council. In the process of assessing the proposal, the emphasis is placed on how it deals with the Council's current problems, which are low legitimacy, effectiveness, and the right to veto and then the concept is compared with two others. The thesis also aims to evaluate whether the proposal has a chance for success and realization with regard to the history of the reform and the attitudes of the permanent members.

Klíčová slova: Security Council, UN, G4 group