

Annotation

The process of Russian accession to the WTO took 18 years and is considered as one of the longest and the most complicated in history. This bachelor thesis discusses the factors influencing these accession negotiations. There are two defining hypotheses. The first works with the factor of incompatibility of the interests between Russia and the WTO Working party; this hypothesis utilizes the Robert Keohane's theory of Neoliberal Institutionalism. The perspective of the second hypothesis is that Russia is considered to be a power threat which could disrupt the WTO. This hypothesis is supported by the realist theory of Kenneth Waltz, Joseph Grieco, Robert Gilpin and Stephen Krasner. Both aforementioned approaches are complemented with the bargaining theory which develops them in further detail, thus precluding a need for third hypothesis defined. The research regarding the first hypothesis is based on an in-depth examination of formal multilateral negotiations reports of the Working party related to Russian accession. In these reports, the often discussed themes are pursued and identified by the stated criteria of repeatability. In the next section, a content analysis to the (final) Report of the Working party is utilized to order to acquire necessary themes of disputes. Comparison of the Russian Report to Chinese's and Chinese Taipei's Reports follows up, both of which are processed using with the same method of content analysis. This section of research shows that themes which were discussed with Russia differ from the other ones. The data is further qualitatively supported by the internet sources, which discuss the dispute of themes. The analysis of the second hypothesis aggregates relevant outputs found in the daily newspapers, official WTO, EU, USA, etc. reports and pinpoints statements of the representatives of the USA or the EU (etc.), which state that Russia is regarded as a power threat. The data from the conducted research support the first hypothesis as the There was an incompatibility of interests between Russia and the WTO. The TBT and SPS themes were the most common grounds for controversy.