

Abstract

Master thesis is concerned about relationship between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the European Union. Thesis is focused on development of historical relationship between the UK and the EU since the end of second world war, followed by establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) in 1951, over Brexit, until these days. It's written from the British point of view, specifically depending on the attitude of government of UK and British parliamentary political parties to European integration. British government, similarly to British political parties, has a main impact on British public opinion. Main goal of my thesis is to focus on attitude of these political subjects to European integration and find out how great was their influence on decision of British voters during Brexit. The referendum was held on Thursday 23 June 2016 and British electorate voted to leave the EU. Thesis is divided into two parts. The first part is concerned about historical development of attitude of British government to the European union and the second one is focused on relationship between British political parties and the EU. The first chapter is about historical attitude of political parties to the EU since establishment of ECSC until announcement of official date of Brexit. The second chapter is about British political parties and their influence on electorate during before-Brexit era.