

Abstract

Bachelor Thesis under the title: “Neo-Ottomanism and Its Effects in the Western Balkans: The Comparison of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina” analyses the attitude of Turkish foreign policy towards Western Balkan states. The aim of the thesis is to analyse the Turkish expansionary foreign policy not only from a military but from an economic point of view. The thesis is divided into three parts. The first part is dedicated to Turkey and how it has changed its position on the regional and world political scene. The following part deals with the development of both relations between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Turkey and relations between Serbia and Turkey over the last ten years. The last and most significant chapter analyses the economic aspect of neo-ottomanism. Based on the analysis of Turkish investments in the Western Balkan states and other economic parameters (exports and imports), Turkey has been using soft power to become a major player in this very turbulent region. Using a comparative analysis of two case studies, it was confirmed that Bosnia and Herzegovina, which is one of the most important Turkish partners in the Balkans, is still in the centre of Turkish interest. However, led by recent events which resulted in the opening of the Serbian market to Turkish investors, one can observe Serbia’s interest to cooperate with Turkey, which should, in future, lead to reaching or even exceeding the level of Turkish investment in Bosnia and Herzegovina.