

ABSTRACT

Disarmament at the beginning of the 21st Century: Development of the contractual approaches on the reduction of strategic arms between the United States of America and the Russian Federation

The aim of this diploma thesis is the theoretical assumption of the contemporary development of treaties instruments dealing with the disarmament dilemma from the international law's point of view, or setting the new (or renegotiated) treaty approach on reduction of the strategic arms between the Russian Federation and the United States of America into the wider context of international treaties, analysis of the new disarmament treaty denoted as The New START Treaty, which replaced START I Treaty, and its comparison with the previous treaties and drafts of treaties. In doing so this thesis also summarises the longer-range development of the bilateral treaty approaches on the reduction of strategic arms between the United States and Russia, or the Soviet Union respectively, which goes back deep into the times of the Cold War and comprises the crucial negotiations of SALT and INF treaties. The thesis focuses not only to the text of the treaties and their drafts alone but also on the particular stages of negotiations. Then, The New START Treaty is the subject of more detailed analysis in the final two chapters, as it is the basis for primary hypothesis of the thesis assuming that this Treaty actually demonstrates the logical continuation of the bilateral disarmament process, in an extent and in a way already used by the previous START I Treaty, which profits from experiences with the previous treaty arrangement. By using two primary viewpoints, arrangement of the treaty limits for strategic arms and setting the verification measures, the validity of this hypothesis has been backed with a lot of proofs and reflections.

The thesis contains six chapters altogether and it is divided into a part rather descriptive which involves the first chapter and two following chapters dealing with the development of bilateral disarmament approaches, and a part rather analytical which is constituted by the two final chapters focusing on the new disarmament treaty. This division also corresponds with the thesis' and each chapter's systematics within which we can distinguish the general part, which inflicts the wider issue of international public law, law of international treaties, the issue of disarmament as itself and the related questions of definitions of the basic terms, and the specific part in which the emphasis is put on the analysis of the

particular disarmament treaties, or their differentiating and characteristic aspects. The fourth chapter is then based on conjunction of these methodological approaches, because it deals with the specific issue within the subject of disarmament which is the verification of compliance with the treaty obligations, and it is compiled by using the analytic-synthetic method in which the outline of the basic verification mechanisms in international treaties on disarmament is offered, as well as the more detailed analysis of the verification components in the particular bilateral treaties on disarmament.