

ABSTRACT

Lucie Pávková

Concept of „Evil“ in US Foreign Policy – the Example of George W. Bush Administration

The bachelor thesis *“Concept of ‘Evil’ in US Foreign Policy – the Example of George W. Bush Administration”* deals with the problem of “evil” created by the Bush administration in the period of first presidency of George W. Bush (especially between 2001 – 2004) and influence of the concept of “evil” on the formation of US foreign policy. It is a discursive analysis, which is divided into two parts – the quantitative and the qualitative one. On the basis of most significant speeches of George W. Bush, the quantitative part tries to find out the most important elements of the concept of “evil” and the actors considered “evil” by the Bush administration. These elements and actors are assessed with support of other administration’s documents in the qualitative part of the analysis. The last part of the thesis deals with the relation of the new concept of “evil” and the actions in foreign policy led against these “evil” actors. In the first phase (2001 - 2002) the “evil” actors are mainly terrorists, while during the second phase (2002 – 2004), the “evil” actors are considered rogue states defined as Axis of Evil. The most significant elements of the new concept of “evil” are dualistic perception of the world (“goodness” represented by USA vs. “evil”), which caused a simplifying of the interactions within the international community and thus radicalization of US actions in the “war on terror”, and the reintroduction of religion into the rhetoric of United States.