

Abstract

American foreign policy represents, due to the enduring importance of the United States and its superpower status, a suitable topic for detailed analysis. This thesis focuses on Poland and related U.S. foreign policy that enables to find factors influencing the process of foreign policy-making and consequently to examine the level of their impact. Selecting Poland can be explained by its great potential and rising importance within the European politics as well as by long-lasting partnership existing between Poland and the United States that has been created over the years. The main goal of this thesis was to define the most important factors that determine American foreign policy towards Poland and to assess their level of influence, potential mutual interconnection and the time variability. The analysis of historical development and factors that could have influenced contemporary policy, U.S. domestic policy evaluation and the analysis of other factors that have an impact on current U.S. policy toward Poland served as the tools for reaching goals of this thesis. The author came to the conclusion that contemporary foreign policy is not solely affected by current development, but also the historical context and circumstances can have impact on its formulation and present shape. The forming of the American approach towards Poland is not completely isolated from other processes and therefore its final outcome depends on subsequent variables such as general American foreign orientation, its relations with Russia or the general course of the security situation.