

Abstract

The term "special relationship" was for the first time in public used by the British Prime Minister Winston Churchill in his Fulton speech in 1946. His belief was based on the assumption that both countries were culturally similar and had cooperated in the Second World War. The cultural similarity and common purpose have been the presumption of mutual cooperation right from the beginning of the Cold War. Personal ties and Anglo-Saxon roots played also played a key role in defining the relationship as undoubtedly special. Such examples are JFK and Harold MacMillan, Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan, and the subservient policy of Tony Blair towards G. W. Bush. The last mentioned is also used for partial comparisons throughout the thesis. The thesis called A "Special Relationship?" the Anglo-American Relationship in the Age of Barack Obama and David Cameron deals with the question whether the so-called special relationship is still special. By setting Obama-Cameron relationship into historical context, it offers a comparison between peaks, troughs, and average-level Anglo-American relationships. This leads to a conclusion providing specific factors of the Anglo-American special relationship. Those factors stem from the historical perspective and are then used in the main-body analysis of five areas of cooperation –diplomatic, defence, security and nuclear, intelligence, economic, and cultural. The conclusion of the thesis brings a historical comparison of the level of perceived Anglo-American cooperation since the beginning of the Cold War; put into a graph thus brings a unique perspective on the issue. The negative aspects of the Obama-Cameron relationship then form a third part of the conclusion.