

Abstract

Bachelor thesis „The Attitude of Great Britain towards Unification of Germany in years 1989-1990“ is mainly concerned with analysis of the opinion held by two main institutional actors of British foreign policy. These were, of course, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, primarily Minister Douglas Hurd. Before the fall of the Berlin Wall, Great Britain was sworn to support the unification of Germany, as were the other western powers. But when the prospect of a German unification really appeared, Great Britain was less than enthusiastic. The stance of the prime minister could have been described as sceptic at best and outwardly hostile at worst. The FCO at first followed the prime ministers political line, but it was never so extreme in its opposition. Soon it began to divert and to take a friendlier position towards the unification, taking active part in the 2+4 talks. This thesis tries to answer the question why this rift between politics of the prime minister and the FCO appeared. It also tries to explain why did prime minister Thatcher opposed the German unification so vigorously. The main thesis is that it was down to the strong opposition against stronger and deeper European integration. Thatcher's personal irrational fear and dislike of Germans and Germany, also played it's part.