



Abstract

This thesis explains why Ukraina signed the Ukraine-European Union Association Agreement. The problemization stemmed from the officials of EU and Commonwealth of Independent States' Free Trade Area. In explaining Ukraine's choice, three sources of preferences are identified in the form of three factors. First is Euromaidan as the ideational variant factor. The second factors are Ukraine's foreign debt and trade imbalance towards Russia as commercial factors. The third factor is the interim government coalition as the republican variant factor. Process tracing methods are employed to give better understanding towards the phenomenon. The explanations in this thesis are focused on Euromaidan as an extraparliamentary political activity as well as parliamentary activities and other phenomena that allowed the genesis of Euromaidan. Euromaidan that started on late November of 2013 succeeded in helping the ousting of the Yanukovich-Azarov government. The genesis of Euromaidan was only possible if Viktor Yanukovich postponed the signing of the Association Agreement. The ousting was made possible by the deterioration of Ukrainian economic conditions, exacerbated by political stagnation within the country. In February 2014, Viktor Yanukovich fled the country and that gave the parliament a reason to assert that the president cannot carry their duties properly. Later, the interim president Oleksandr Turchynov signed the Ukraine-European Union Association Agreement. Strategic elements found in this phenomenon were found to be useful for International Relations scholars with concerns on strategic studies, especially in understanding the dynamics of international politics of the 21st century.