

Abstract

This bachelor's thesis focuses on a partial episode of international and diplomatic relations of one of the short-lived successor states of Austria-Hungary - the West Ukrainian Republic. When, in the fall of 1918, war broke out between Poland and the West Ukrainian Republic over which side would have a permanent claim to Eastern Galicia, France and Great Britain made repeated efforts to settle the disputes between the two states, but in the end the sovereignty of the West Ukrainian Republic was not preserved. The aim of the thesis is to determine the reasons why the West Ukrainian Republic as a geopolitical entity did not receive sufficient foreign support to ensure its existence and independence in the fight against Poland. For the research purposes of the work, a combination of several historiographical methodological procedures was used, such as direct, indirect, or progressive. The purpose of this procedure is a clear chronological description of key events, such as diplomatic missions, meetings of delegations, or the work of commissions preparing key documents. The work came to the conclusion that the West Ukrainian Republic collapsed mainly because of stubbornness on the part of its politicians, specifically in the case of the decision not to accept Barthélemy's demarcation line. After the reinforced Polish armed forces took the initiative on the battlefield, the bargaining position of the other side was significantly weakened. In the end, the Western Allies had no choice but to approve the Polish occupation of Eastern Galicia under the weight of the circumstances. The Allies then lost their actual influence over the region, whose status was sealed as part of the Peace of Riga after the Polish-Soviet War in 1921.