

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF MIDDLENESS IN THE GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM. MIKTA MEMBER STATES AS A CASE STUDY

Natalia Adrianna Potera

The question of power, and the influence directly associated with it, constitutes a fundamental area of inquiry within the social sciences, particularly in the field of political science. Although the concept of power has been extensively examined by numerous scholars over the years, the accelerating pace of change in an increasingly globalized world requires the academic community to engage in its constant reassessment and redefinition.

The purpose of this doctoral dissertation was to define the level of great-power potential of the states forming the informal MIKTA partnership, which brings together middle-power actors. The members of this group—namely Mexico, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Turkey, and Australia—are perceived in the international arena as players who may in the future have a decisive voice not only in the realm of regional politics but also on a global scale. The comparison of their respective potentials – including material, behavioral, and ideational attributes – was intended to identify the attributes of power that most significantly determine a state's position in the contemporary international system, while also highlighting the risks arising from insufficient emphasis on the responsible and effective management of available knowledge and resources.

In the framework of this study, the author sought to respond to three principal research questions: Which of the selected dimensions of power function as the primary determinants of the further development of the MIKTA members? What is the probability that these states will attain the status of a superpower or a transregional power in the future? And what obstacles do they encounter in their pursuit of enhanced power status?