

Doctoral thesis summary

The aim of the doctoral thesis *International roles of an emerging middle power. Brazil's foreign policy analysis from 2003 to 2014* is the definition and analysis of Brazil's international roles. In the thesis, roles are identified as variables enabling the presentation of the state's identity and status – already held, as well as the one the state desires to achieve – which determine the selection of the role and hence constitute Brazil's foreign policy. In addition, roles allow to include the international system as a determinant of a country's foreign policy. This dissertation - dedicated to four international roles of Brazil within the timeframe 2003-2014 - constitutes therefore an attempt to identify Brazil's global importance. The identified position and behaviour of the country related to this position are used to polemise with the part of researchers who warned against treating Brazil as a middle power. Role analysis will allow to verify the validity of the thesis that Brazil is an emerging middle power. The main hypothesis is the assumption that Brazil being an emerging middle power declares and performs a set of international roles, among which the emphasis should be placed on the roles of a regional integrator, coalition-builder of the global South, donor for African states and mediator in the Middle East. These roles will be identified as instruments used by Brazil to assure favourable conditions for national development, including economic expansion, increase of influence at the main fora of international cooperation as well as the attainment of the great-power status aspirations traditionally shared by the country's elites. Roles assumed by Brazil as an emerging middle power will be understood as a tool permitting to achieve one of the main goals of this group of countries: the construction of a multipolar reality, in which emerging powers or hitherto marginalized actors would increase their impact on the construction of the global order. The analysis of Brazil's selected roles will help to understand the changing international reality, in which a group of states, whose resources and aspirations surpass traditional middle powers, yet lack recognition of great powers, is striving to identify once again their identity, roles and position in the contemporary world. Simultaneously, the difficulties the country will encounter while performing its international roles will allow to present the legitimate claim of categorizing Brazil as an emerging middle power.