

AMERICAN CONCEPT OF AN "ATLANTIC COMMUNITY" AND THE INTEGRATION OF WESTERN EUROPE

International status of the United States of America has always been based on the economic and military resources of this country. Half of the world capitalist production being concentrated in USA, the latter represents a leading power influencing its economic trends. Nevertheless, the continually increasing supremacy of USA has been hindered by the novel ideas prevailing in the world, especially by the processes of decolonization and the general tendencies of industrialization and independent control of national economies. Ascent of the dynamic system of socialist economy has impressively reduced the sphere of influence of USA. Agencies of this type have shaped the American concept of international economic relationships manifest in America's attitude towards the processes of integration in Western Europe.

The United States of America have based economic development on the system of protectionism. Natural resources, extensive home market, inflow of immigrants and of currency favoured the establishing of a self-sufficing economy. For these reasons USA soon became the leading capitalist country.

Dynamics of the international relationships have compelled USA, however, to revise the traditional protectionism. The political and economic situation after World War II required a wide-spread exchange with the remaining world. USA therefore attempted to unite the capitalistic countries and thus create a counterweight against the socialistic system. In the economic domain these concepts found their expression in the doctrine of multilateralism. In order to provide grounds for a functioning of this system, USA has taken the initiative in organizing several international economic bodies. American policy has become pervaded by the idea of a political and military community under the auspices of USA, justified by the "communist danger", and widely propagated in the political arena. Many of these American ideas have only been partly successful, chiefly because of the increasingly strong tendencies of integration gaining hold in Europe and aimed to become independent from America. Under these circumstances USA has made a novel attempt to subdue Western Europe to her political and economic concepts framed in the idea of an "Atlantic Community". Yet, further proceedings in Europe and in the American economics again forced USA to revise the concept of an "Atlantic Community". The new initiatives found an expression in the broadly launched programme of an "Atlantic Partnership" wherein America appears as a partner, rather than a protector, which used to be the case up to now. And so it can be stated that the processes of European integration have lead America to a dead-end by imposing a menace to her foundations and institutions. The new American initiatives have become manifest in the economic domain in the "Trade Expansion Act", while in the political — in the project of organizing Multilateral (Nuclear) Forces. Processes of West European integration are not a political achievement only, aimed against the socialist countries; at the same time they represent a policy with a strong anti-American spirit.

MICHAŁ CHECIŃSKI

COOPERATION OF THE GFR WITH THE NATO COUNTRIES IN MATTERS OF ARMAMENT

Cooperation of the German Federal Republic with the NATO countries in matters of armament is associated in its beginnings with the restoration of the Federal Defence Forces; it is economic, military and political aspect. This joint operation has been characterized by several inconsistencies which are a pehodni