Abstract

Finished the Thousand Days War Colombia began the twentieth century with a geostrategic loss, that removed his status as zone of possible interoceanic transit: the separation of the Panamanian province, affected the relations between Colombia and The United States, country that was interested in the construction of the interoceanic canal by Panama. In 1914 was signed the treaty Urrutia-Thompson, by means of which The United States "compensated" to Colombia for the loss of Panama. After the ratification of the treaty, the American government sought to improve his relations with Colombia, combining economic and diplomatic missions. The first purpose is to analyze historically the doctrine respice polum ("To look at the north"), coined in the presidential period 1918-1921, valuing her repercussion for other international relations of Colombia during the twentieth century; doctrine according to which Colombia had to orientate his foreign policy towards The United States. The final intention is to show how this doctrine made that during great part of the twentieth century Colombia was presenting a "low profile" (expression of the Austrian theoretician Gerhard Drekonja Kornat) as for his relate with the international community, tendency that only started being modified partially at the end of the sixties when was postulated the doctrine respice similia ("To look at your similar ones").

Keywords

Twentieth century, International Relations, Colombia, Respice Polum, Respice Similia.