Europe's Borders. Prospects for EU Enlargement

The aim of the paper is to show the prospects of EU enlargement. The analysis takes into account both the intra-EU conditions of the process (the strengthening of the intergovernmentalism of integration processes in the EU and their politicization, “enlargement fatigue”, and the rise of Eurosceptic sentiments) and changing attitudes towards the EU exhibited by candidate countries, which are increasingly reluctant to integrate into European structures. In times of crisis, membership in the European Union becomes a less attractive objective, especially for countries with significant international or even global aspirations — the best example here is Turkey. The article also presents the consequences of further EU enlargement for decision-making in the European Union, and the strength of arguments expressed by individual states. The article also includes the Polish perspective and the Polish government’s position on the issue of further enlargement of the EU-28. The article concludes that the enlargement process will continue, but it may not be the main driving force of reform dynamics in the European Union.

Keywords: Unia Europejska, rozszerzenie, Bałkany, Turcja, Ukraina