

Foreign Policy and Dependency: A Comparative
Study of the Manley and Seaga Governments
in Jamaica, 1972-89

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This dissertation is the first to systematically compare the foreign policies of the Manley and Seaga administrations in Jamaica. It attempts to demonstrate that between 1972 and 1989 the country's dependency deepened and the government's margin of choice in foreign policy significantly decreased. The analysis focuses on the constellation of internal and external social forces and evaluates their impact as the most important co-determinants of the dependent state's policy agenda. Besides the use of secondary materials, which was partially reinterpreted, the study also utilizes a number of unpublished primary sources, such as speeches, interviews conducted by the author, internal reports etc. It also surveyed the coverage of the events in both major Jamaican and overseas print media. On the basis of the presented evidence, it is concluded that the room for autonomous foreign policy action of the Jamaican state shrunk significantly in the time period which the study traverses.