

ABSTRACT

Foreign Policy and Economic Management: A Study of Policy Choices and Determinants, 1981-1987

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This dissertation examines the usefulness of a value-maximising model in explaining the Jamaican government's foreign policy choices from 1981 to 1987. The argument is that monetary power as a national attribute can enhance foreign policy capability and can be acquired and maximised by effective economic management. Analysis of the relationship between domestic economic policy and foreign policy is therefore essential to understanding the latter. When a number of conceptual lenses were applied to policy choices over the period it was found that utility-maximising goals were the major determinants of policy choice, and that the government's pursuit of such goals at the domestic level constrained its ability to pursue a more independent foreign policy.