In this thesis I have researched Britain's Euro skepticism in the light of integration theories. I have concentrated on the main contending theories in the field of International Relations. I have especially concentrated in the areas of Neofunctionalism and Liberal Intergovernmentalism and their power to explain British reluctance to join the Euro zone. I have evaluated these theories and their power of explanation by critically looking at them from an economically Realist point of view.

I have divided my thesis into six different chapters. Out of these six chapters it is chapters two through five that provide the actual discussion of the issue at hand. In the introduction I have set out my research question, and in the conclusion I seek to provide some idea of the findings of this thesis in relation to the research question.

In chapter two I have attempted to explain the key theoretical interpretations of European integration. I have discussed Britain joining the EMU in the light of Neo-functionalism and Liberal Intergovernmentalism.

In the third chapter I have laid down the foundations for this thesis on economic grounds. For this chapter on the economics of the Euro to be of such breadth shows the relevance of economic factors in explaining British membership—or exclusion for that matter—in the EMU.

In the fourth chapter—Politics of the Euro—we begin to see the real problems behind the possible British membership of the EMU. That the debate around the Euro often goes along economic lines is not surprising. Therefore I find this chapter of pivotal importance to better understand the issue at hand.

After these more accurate arguments and their many variations, we move to more interesting (at least for a political science student) debates that I have found. This fifth chapter then will tie all the loose ends together, as it will make an attempt at theorizing this issue more thoroughly in the light of the different evidence we have found in this thesis.

Finally then in the conclusion an attempt is made to pinpoint the main issues that I have debated in my thesis. Some possible future research questions are discussed as well as possible variations of the theme.

Avainsanat-Nyckelord: Euro, Economic and Monetary Union -- EMU, integration -- Europe, integration theories, Labour party, United Kingdom

Muita tietoja-Övriga uppgifter: Where deposited