

**ASSESSMENT  
of Master Thesis  
submitted by Sarah MOOG (IEPS)**

**Internally Displaced Persons in International Law and Policy  
– A Case Study Approach on the Darfur Crisis in Sudan**

(Opponent Review)

Prague  
January 17, 2012

For the first time, I am writing assessment of a Master Thesis written by a student from IEPS. So, I can assess this Master Thesis in light of those prepared by students from various Czech programmes ongoing at IPS.

Master Thesis by Sarah MOOG is focused on internal displacement. It includes the definition of IDPs and the explanation of common causes of forced movements within the borders of particular states. There is also the introduction of key legal regulations (local, regional, and international). Also main problems and needs of this highly vulnerable group of migrants are mentioned as well as the urgency of humanitarian assistance. Sarah pointed out the lack of readiness and willingness of many states affected by such movements of their population to provide suitable and sustainable solutions. As well as the limited capacity of international community to step in effectively. Detailed case study aimed at IDPs in Sudanese Darfur is the part of the thesis.

The topic of the thesis is not very original, on the contrary it is very popular and repeated among students in the last few years. There are not cardinal faults or nonsenses, its structure is logical and the text is understandable, but still it is only a comprehensive description of well-known facts. There are neither new, nor original thoughts or observations. The thesis rather reaches the level of standard, well-done Bachelor Thesis than Master's. Also the extent of the thesis corresponds with my previous comment – it is too short: there are 21 pages about IDPs in general and then 16 pages takes the case study, including 4 pages of conclusions and recommendations, it makes approx. 40 pages altogether, the rest are appendices (although they are interesting and appropriate), moreover there are also graphs and tables incorporated into the text (why?). I would appreciate the transcript of the telephone interview and more details about it (when and by whom it was recorded etc.). Also the bibliography is not in standard format, structured by type of resources used.

Due to the reasons outlined briefly above I suggest to grade the thesis as GOOD (3).

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