



## Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Felina Katharina Wittke

Title: Implementation of the Dublin Regime

Programme/year: Master in International Relations

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/external assessor): supervisor – Jan Karlas

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
<b>Major Criteria</b>			
	Research question, definition of objectives	<b>10</b>	10
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	<b>30</b>	30
	Methodology, analysis, argument	<b>40</b>	35
<i>Total</i>		<b>80</b>	75
<b>Minor Criteria</b>			
	Sources	<b>10</b>	10
	Style	<b>5</b>	5
	Formal requirements	<b>5</b>	5
<i>Total</i>		<b>20</b>	20
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>	95



## Evaluation

Major criteria:

The submitted thesis has several clear strengths. Let us start by mentioning that it deals with a very relevant topic – the (often deficient) implementation of the Dublin migration regime by the member states of the European Union (EU). Felina Wittke made a good case selection choice, deciding to explain the differences in the implementation levels in Germany, Hungary, and Italy. The choice is very suitable, because it puts together three countries that represent three entirely different levels of implementation. What must be particularly appreciated is that the author found a useful way to measure the implementation of the Dublin system.

In theoretical/explanatory terms, the thesis is safely grounded in the existing research on implementation of EU policies and Europeanisation. Therefore, the author focuses on the conventional and intuitive variables that are likely to affect to what extent a country adopts the Dublin rules – the fit between the national and EU rules, administrative capacity, and the economic situation. This theoretical framework is anchored in a very solid and detailed literature review.

Another thing to highlight is the measurement of the explanatory factors in the individual cases. For each variable, Felina found and used clear and relevant indicators. In terms of measurement, the thesis needs to cope with what is the typical problem of case studies that seek to measure variables by using quantitative indicators. Because the number of cases is small, it is relatively debatable which values are “low”, “medium” or “high” (this is not a problem in quantitative studies where a high number of cases makes measurement more straightforward). Still, the author managed to classify the cases on a substantiated basis and persuasively. Overall, the length and precision of the theoretical and methodological part clearly surpasses what can be typically observed in M.A. theses.

The conclusion is persuasive and interesting – it shows that the different ability of countries to accept the Dublin system cannot be explained by their administrative capacity, because all of them are relatively developed countries with a more or less capable bureaucracy. So the different national approaches to the regulation of migration and the economic situation (which may also be symptomatic of populism or social unrest) seem to be more relevant explanatory factors.



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Minor criteria:

No comments

Overall evaluation:

I can only restate that Felina Wittke submitted a very good M.A. thesis. The quality of the theoretical and methodological part exceeds the standards of typical M.A. theses. The implementation in the three cases is analyzed with a high degree of precision. The conclusion is well documented and interesting.

Suggested grade:

A

Signature: