



## Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Silvia Fiore

Title: Jihadism in Italy: An Analysis of the Islamic State-inspired radicalisation process of Anas el Abboubi and Maria Giulia Sergio

Programme/year: MISS/SECINTEL 2018

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/external assessor):

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
<b>Major Criteria</b>			
	Research question, definition of objectives	<b>10</b>	9
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	<b>30</b>	24
	Methodology, analysis, argument	<b>40</b>	33
<b>Total</b>		<b>80</b>	66
<b>Minor Criteria</b>			
	Sources	<b>10</b>	
	Style	<b>5</b>	



	Formal requirements	5	
<b>Total</b>		<b>20</b>	20
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>	86

## Evaluation

### Major criteria:

The reviewed dissertation is a well-structured, organized, and executed piece of original research. It builds on the author's solid knowledge of the most up to date literature on radicalization. It casts an important light on the micro-dynamic of radicalization – and the way Islamic religion is instrumentalized by jihadists. The dissertation is well-anchored theoretically and is methodologically sound. My only criticism relates to two important aspects: (1) what the author claim is in line with what the mainstream literature holds on radicalization in general and Salafi-jihadi-driven radicalization in particular in that radicalization is a process that is rather ideological at its initial stages, even though it is imbued with ideology at a later stage once radicalization itself has taken place. So, theoretically, the dissertation does little to challenge the established/dominant theoretical approach to the phenomenon. (2) Empirically, the thesis is not ground-breaking either because, most importantly, it builds on a comparatively-sounding (yet not comparative in essence) case study (or two case studies) of two jihadists. Understandably, no



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generalization may be inferred from such a limited sample. This having said, this dissertation's main contribution rests in the fact that it (1) does a nice job systematizing the current debate on radicalization that is at times convoluted. It systematized what we know about the radicalization of two individuals and what implications, as minor as they are for the general state of the art, the studied two cases have.

Minor criteria:

OK

Suggested grade: 86/B1

Signature: