



## Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Alice Gallard

Title: France's mal-être: Exploring the root causes and other explanatory factors behind the rise of radicalization in France.

Programme/year: International Security Studies - 2

Author of Evaluation (supervisor): Emil Aslan

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
<b>Major Criteria</b>			
	Research question, definition of objectives	<b>10</b>	5
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	<b>30</b>	20
	Methodology, analysis, argument	<b>40</b>	30
<i>Total</i>		<b>80</b>	55
<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>	75



## Evaluation

### Major criteria:

The author's premise that the factors of radicalization in France are missing from the general literature is false. These, too, have been routinely addressed by the scholars of radicalization and form the core of research on the phenomenon. The author comes up with hypotheses that seek to give answers to well-known questions. Moreover, they're not based (deductively) on theory. This is the major shortcoming of the thesis.

### Minor criteria:

The structure of the thesis is reverse; first, literature review should be introduced along with the identification of the research problem; second, methods and data are elucidated. Conceptualization usually predates these two sections.

### Overall evaluation:

In spite of the above shortcomings, I consider the thesis a well-executed, relatively well-organized, and spot-on contribution on a phenomenon notorious for its complexity. The author bites way more than she can swallow, which is understandable given the many nuances of the topic of radicalization. She has nevertheless succeeded in putting together a mosaic of definitions, approaches, and pathways pertaining to the phenomenon. While the shortcomings of the thesis are understandable given the complexity of the topic chosen and limited theoretical and methodological skills, typical for M.A. students, I have to applaud the author's resolve to cope with the many challenges emanating from the analytical deepness of the topic. Throughout her work on the thesis and while attending related courses taught by me, she has displayed commitment and interest in unearthing the phenomenon of radicalization from a variety of perspectives.

### Suggested grade:

75 points; 2 or C

Signature: Emil Aslan (Souleimanov)