



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: **VICTOR CEMUS**

Title: **EUROPEAN STRATEGIC AUTONOMY. CHANCES AND CHALLENGES FOR EUROPE.**

Programme/year: **2020**

Author of Evaluation (supervisor): Vladimir Handl, IMS FSV UK

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	10
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	25
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	37
<i>Total</i>		80	72
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	10
	Style	5	5
	Formal requirements	5	4
<i>Total</i>		20	19
TOTAL		100	91



Evaluation

Major criteria:

The research design and analysis result in a complex and differentiated answer to the research question, particularly with the case studies of the three countries under investigation. The author reconstructs in several subsequent steps the process of evolution of European Security and Defence Policy, the role of the concept of European Strategic Autonomy in this process, shows the ambiguity of the EU institutions and the individual member states in this regard. He focuses on individual components of the ESA and on their interpretation in the expert and political debate.

On the methodological and theoretical side, the initial frame of structural realisms is not further used and remains rather isolated.

Minor criteria:

The thesis is well written and uses a representative selection of literature and primary sources. The text includes minor mistakes, such as misspelling of the name of Adrian Hyde-Price.

Overall evaluation:

The thesis represents a thorough and nuanced, well-structured analytical contribution to the debate about the European Strategic Autonomy, which points at chances as well as weaknesses of the developments in terms of EU policies as well as individual national approaches.

Suggested grade: B

Signature: JUDr. Vladimír Handl, CSc., IMS FSV UK (Düsseldorf, 7. 9. 2020)