

UNIVERZITA KARLOVA V PRAZE
Fakulta sociálních věd
Institut mezinárodních studií

PROTOKOL O HODNOCENÍ MAGISTERSKÉ PRÁCE
(Posudek oponenta)

Práci předložil(a) student(ka): Adéla Literáková

Název práce: Sino-US-Russia Relations during the Second Term of the Presidency of Barack Obama

Oponoval (u externích oponentů uveďte též adresu a funkci v rámci instituce): Pavel Szobi

1. OBSAH A CÍL PRÁCE (stručná informace o práci, formulace cíle):

The main aim of the thesis is „to explore the triangle of the United States, China, and Russia during the period of the second term of the Obama administration“. The main quests of the thesis, as well as the methodology and the characteristics of the state of the art provide a satisfying introduction into an academic text. I find the topic particularly intriguing due to its triangular approach.

2. VĚCNÉ ZPRACOVÁNÍ (náročnost, tvůrčí přístup, argumentace, logická struktura, teoretické a metodologické ukotvení, práce s prameny a literaturou, vhodnost příloh apod.):

The whole text is logically structured, with minor conclusions closing each large segment of the investigation. The author works with academic monographs and studies, as well as with major U.S./British and global media.

The general impression is that the thesis is an overall analysis of the current (more or less the second term of President Obama) state of the Sino-US-Russia relations. The author is able to show and explain the most important segments which create tensions, rivalry and temporary alliances between the countries in question.

Some of the discusses issues are indeed captivating. One can mention the American negative perception of the Chinese economic growth, especially in the connection with the United States' trade deficit with China (1.9 percent of GDP in 2017). The other one is the activity in the areas of agriculture and tourism between Russia and China, as Russian agrarian products are in high demand in China, and Russia has become a popular travel destination for Chinese tourists. Moreover, Russia has begun selling arms and military equipment to China. The other interesting element of Sino-Russian relations is Russia's attitude towards the South China Sea issue. The author states that the South China Sea is not a place where Russia can expand its interests and that is why Russia does not need to interfere in this region.

3. FORMÁLNÍ A JAZYKOVÉ ZPRACOVÁNÍ (jazykový projev, správnost citace a odkazů na literaturu, grafická úprava, formální náležitosti práce apod.):

The text has both high formal and language qualities. The author provides correct footnotes and quotes throughout the whole text. At the same time, the amount of literature and provided sources is not as large as it should for a thorough analysis. The whole thesis keeps the topic on a surface and forms a rather a descriptive and informative text. Nevertheless, it provides an excellent observation of the triangle relations between three political and economic powers in the recent global development, namely the United States, Russian Federation and Russia.

4. STRUČNÝ KOMENTÁŘ HODNOTITELE (celkový dojem z diplomové práce, silné a slabé stránky, originalita myšlenek, naplnění cíle apod.):

The thesis does not come with original interpretations or ideas per se but provides the readers with an interesting constellation angle of international relations at the level of the most important global players in regions in dispute, such as the South China Sea or North East Asia. In this regard, the strength of the whole thesis is more than obvious. Nevertheless, the analysis is rather short and superficial. It would also require a more detailed look into the history of mutual relations between the countries in question.

5. OTÁZKY A PŘIPOMÍNKY DOPORUČENÉ K BLIŽŠÍMU VYSVĚTLENÍ PŘI OBHAJOBĚ (jedna až tři):

You mentioned the growing demand for agricultural products for the Chinese population. Please elaborate on this. How do Chinese companies proceed in their strategy to obtain staple food and other farmer products from Russia (joint ventures, direct purchase of products, land purchase etc.)?

6. DOPORUČENÍ / NEDOPORUČENÍ K OBHAJOBĚ A NAVRHOVANÁ ZNÁMKA
(A-F): Based on the comments in this review, I grade the thesis with the mark B.

Datum: September 6, 2020

Podpis:

Pozn.: Hodnocení pište k jednotlivým bodům, pokud nepíšete v textovém editoru, použijte při nedostatku místa zadní stranu nebo příložený list. V hodnocení práce se pokuste oddělit ty její nedostatky, které jsou, podle vašeho mínění, obhajobou neodstranitelné (např. chybí kritické zhodnocení pramenů a literatury), od těch věcí, které student může dobrou obhajobou napravit; poměr těchto dvou položek berte prosím v úvahu při stanovení konečné známky.