Report on the part of the master state examination
Record of the thesis defence

Academic year: 2019/2020

Student's name and surname: Connor Austman
Year of birth: 1993
Student's ID: 30727896

Type of the study programme: Master's (post-Bachelor)
Study programme: Political Science
Branch of study: Master in International Security Studies
Study Identification Number: 598281

Title of the thesis: Examining the Growth of Private Military Contractors and their Applications in State Stability in Latin America
Thesis department: Department of Security Studies (23-KBS)
Language of the thesis: English
Language of defence: English
Advisor: Mgr. et Mgr. Tomáš Kučera, Ph.D.
Reviewer(s): prof. Mgr. Oldřich Bureš, Ph.D., M.A.

Date of defence: 24.09.2020
Venue of defence: Praha

Course of defence: On behalf of the commission, Prof Hynek invited the student to give his description of the presented research, including empirical findings and the supporting theoretical/methodological framework. Afterwards, the commission summarised the reviewer's reports, focusing on the critical points raised in the reports. The main contentious point discussed involved the problems identified in the thesis's literature review. The student offered his views on the critical points and proceeded to explain the situation of Russian private military companies and links to the Marxist theorisation. The commission concluded the defence, stating that the student's responses were adequate.

Result of defence: very good (C)

Chair of the board: prof. PhDr. RNDr. Nikola Hynek, Ph.D., M.A. (present)
Committee members: PhDr. Vít Střítecký, M.Phil., Ph.D. (present)
Mgr. Petr Špelda, Ph.D. (present)