

# MASTER'S EXAMINER REPORT

*GPS – Geopolitical Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University*

<b>Thesis title:</b>	Development of the Arctic Geopolitics from the Perspective of Russia US Relations
<b>Name of Student:</b>	Shuyu Zou
<b>Referee (incl. titles):</b>	Bohumil Doboš, Ph.D.
<b>Report Due Date:</b>	18.6.2021

**Comments of the referee on the thesis highlights and shortcomings (following the five numbered aspects of your assessment indicated below).**

**1) Contribution and argument:**

The thesis is extremely confusing. It aims to develop overview of the Russo-American relations in the Arctic but presents incoherent overlook of different ideas and initiatives in the region with no clear timeframe or topical restrictions. There is an attempt to present the Arctic super-complex as a solution to the issues of the Arctic, but it is largely underdeveloped. The contribution cannot be seen even in systematization of existing knowledge as the work has a very incomprehensive structure. While in general the topic is relevant, the current text does not bring any significant contribution.

**2) Theoretical and methodological framework:**

A single-case study rooted in the analysis of secondary literature seems relevant for the answering of the research question. RQ is, however, not answered in the conclusion. There is no theoretical background explicitly used.

**2) Sources and literature:**

Article uses large number of Wikipedia sources. The whole thesis is undersourced. Citations in the text are messy and incoherent including the content of the brackets and their position in the text. Bibliography is developed correctly.

**4) Manuscript form and structure:**

The tables and figures are in general used properly, but many of them are not cited. The formal structure of the paper would also need improvement as currently there are numerous issues with spacing, location of the headings, etc.

**5) Quality of presentation**

The language style is poor. Large parts of the thesis are hardly understandable. Text consists many issues with writing of capitals or full stops.

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<i>Contribution (research quality, analysis, and conclusions) (max. 40 points)</i>	5
<i>Theoretical and methodological framework (max. 25 points)</i>	15
<i>Sources and literature (max. 10 points)</i>	3
<i>Manuscript form and structure (max. 15 points)</i>	5
<i>Quality of presentation (grammar, style, coherence) (max. 10 points)</i>	3
<b>TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>The proposed grade (A-B-C-D-E-F)</b>	<b>F</b>

**Suggested questions for the defence are:**

Define the Arctic Rim Super Complex. What steps need to be taken to realize it?

**I do not recommend the thesis for final defence.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Referee Signature**

*Overall grading scheme at FSV UK:*

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE	Quality standard
91 – 100	<b>A</b>	= outstanding (high honor)
81 – 90	<b>B</b>	= superior (honor)
71 – 80	<b>C</b>	= good
61 – 70	<b>D</b>	= satisfactory
51 – 60	<b>E</b>	= low pass at a margin of failure
0 – 50	<b>F</b>	= failing. The thesis is not recommended for defence.