



## Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Leah Kuttu

Title: The Racial Reality in the United States: The Nexus between Critical Race Theory and International Security

Programme/year: **MISS** 2021

Author of Evaluation (~~supervisor~~/external assessor): Vít Strítecký, Ph.D.

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
<b>Major Criteria</b>			
	Research question, definition of objectives	<b>10</b>	10
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	<b>30</b>	27
	Methodology, analysis, argument	<b>40</b>	37
<i>Total</i>		<b>80</b>	74
<b>Minor Criteria</b>			
	Sources	<b>10</b>	9
	Style	<b>5</b>	5
	Formal requirements	<b>5</b>	5
<i>Total</i>		<b>20</b>	19
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>	93



## Evaluation

### Major criteria:

This is a very interesting, relevant and timely attempt to (properly) connect critical race theory and security studies. The research is done in the U.S. context, which is certainly appropriate given the history as well as the most recent developments. The historical contextualization is insightful and provides the necessary background for reflecting the current U.S. racial realities in full. Utilizing the framework of critical race theory to the fullest possible degree, the dissertation shows a great concern for the normativity of the issue, which is, however, handled analytically without undermining the rigour of the presented findings.

The conceptual discussion is among the strongest parts of the text. This leads to building a robust bridge between critical race theory and security studies. A connection missing from the disciplinary security debate, even though the U.S. case and developments in other countries call for cultivating such research efforts.

If I should raise a very minor point for discussion, it would be a relative lack of reflection on the ongoing hasty and irresponsible applications of machine learning systems to predictive policing or predictive (criminal) justice. It seems that this new empirical context should be studied carefully, since innumerable harms can be done via irresponsible uses of technology build upon biased datasets.

### Minor criteria:

All formal requirements are satisfied in full. Based on the anti-plagiarism software checks, it is formally confirmed that the submitted thesis is original and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, does not, in an ethically unacceptable manner, draw from the works of other authors

### Overall evaluation:

In sum, this is a highly innovative and trail-blazing research effort, delivering in full on the goals set at the outset of the submitted work.



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Suggested grade:

A

Signature