

CHARLES UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Social Sciences
Institute of Communication Studies and Journalism

MA THESIS REVIEW

NOTE: Only the grey fields should be filled out!

Review type (choose one):

Review by thesis supervisor Review by opponent

Thesis author:

Surname and given name: Cristina Gironès Martín

Thesis title: The Taliban in a pedal boat: A visual framing analysis of Associated Press and Reuters news photographs of the fundamentalist regime after the end of the Afghanistan war

Reviewer:

Surname and given name: Turková Kateřina

Affiliation: IKSŽ FSV UK

1. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RESEARCH PROPOSAL AND THESIS (mark one box for each row)

		Conforms to approved research proposal	Changes are well explained and appropriate	Changes are explained but are inappropriate	Changes are not explained and are inappropriate	Does not conform to approved research proposal
1.1	Research objective(s)	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2	Methodology	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3	Thesis structure	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

COMMENTARY (description of the relationship between the research proposal and the thesis. If there are problems, please be specific):

The research objectives, methodology and structure conform to approved research proposal, with the understandable minor changes (e.g. research period) that contribute to the quality of the diploma thesis.

2. EVALUATION OF THE THESIS CONTENT

Use letters A – B – C – D – E – F (A=best, F= failed)

		Grade
2.1	Quality and appropriateness of the theoretical framework	A
2.2	Ability to critically evaluate and apply the literature	A
2.3	Quality and soundness of the empirical research	A
2.4	Ability to select the appropriate methods and to use them correctly	A
2.5	Quality of the conclusion	A
2.6	Thesis originality and its contribution to academic knowledge production	A

COMMENTARY (description of thesis content and the main problems):

The theoretical part works well with the empirical research. The student used a wide range of valuable sources within the whole text.

The author successfully applied a mixed-methods approach, whilst I personally appreciated the precise application of the content analysis. The candidate was able to use both methods correctly and draw satisfactory conclusions.

This master thesis is original and contributes to the academic knowledge production in the media and journalism research field.

3. EVALUATION OF THE THESIS FORM

Use letters A – B – C – D – E – F (A=best, F= failed)

		Grade
3.1	Quality of the structure	A
3.2	Quality of the argumentation	A

3.3	Appropriate use of academic terminology	A
3.4	Quality, quantity and appropriateness of the citations (both in the theory part and in the empirical part)	A
3.5	Conformity to quotation standards (*)	A
3.6	Use of an academic writing style, and correct use of language (both grammar and spelling)	B
3.6	Quality of the textual lay-outing and appendices	B

(*) in case the text contains quotations without references, the grade is F; in case the text contains plagiarised parts, do not recommend the thesis for defence and suggest disciplinary action against the author instead.

COMMENTARY (description of thesis form and the main problems):

The structure of the thesis is well-developed and logical. The author was able to use academic terminology, and the whole text looks consistent. The thesis conforms to the quotation standards; the student used the recommended citation style and stated the sources of the information.

There are no major language mistakes in the main text. Contrary, the Czech abstract should be better edited; hence it seems to be automatically translated from the English version.

The textual lay-out of the thesis is above-average; there are just rare minor mistakes (e.g. the “a” at the end of line, missing space between characters or inconsistent line spacing). The appendices appropriately describe the coding procedure and research sample; I consider them beneficial.

4. OVERALL EVALUATION (provide a summarizing list of the thesis’s strengths and weaknesses):

The reviewed master thesis is a well-developed piece of research that significantly contributes to the journalism and media studies field. The candidate proved the ability to plan and realize the research project, as well as to present the results.

In my opinion, this master thesis is very good, and I suggest to evaluate it by mark “A”.

5. QUESTIONS OR TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED DURING THE THESIS DEFENSE:

5.1	What was your motivation for choosing this research topic? (If I may ask.)
5.2	Did you force any problems/challenges while coding the research material and data processing? If so, how did you solve them?

6. ANTIPLAGIARISM CHECK

X The reviewer is familiar with the thesis’ URKUND score.

If the score is above 5%, please evaluate and indicate problems:

6.1	The overall similarity indicated by SIS (Turnitin) is 32 %. The similarity was identified mainly in the direct quotations, diploma thesis template and general phrases. I did not identify any significant problem related to the plagiarism.
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7. SUGGESTED GRADE OF THE THESIS AS A WHOLE (choose one or two)

- A** excellent
- B** very good (above average but with some weaknesses)
- C** good (average with some important weaknesses)
- D** satisfactory (below average with significant weaknesses)
- E** marginal pass (meeting minimal requirements)
- F** not recommended for defence

If the mark is an “F”, please provide your reasons for not recommending the thesis for defence:

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Date: 6. 8. 2022

Signature:

A finalised review should be printed, signed and submitted in two copies to the secretary of the Department of Media Studies. The electronic version of the review should be converted into a PDF and uploaded to SIS, or sent to the Department of Media Studies secretary who will upload it to SIS on the reviewer’s behalf.

Do not upload PDFs with a scanned signature, the review uploaded to SIS must be without signature.