



FACULTY  
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Charles University

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

Academic year: 2021/2022

**Student's name and surname:** Amina Rhyl McCauley  
**Student's ID:** 86324909

**Type of the study programme:** Master's (post-Bachelor)  
**Study programme:** Journalism, Media and Globalisation  
**Study ID:** 685593

**Title of the thesis:** Sources and framing: a comparison of media coverage of climate change across the world  
**Thesis department:** Department of Journalism (23-KZ)  
**Language of the thesis:** English  
**Language of defence:** English  
**Advisor:** Annamária Neag, D.Phil.  
**Reviewer(s):** doc. PhDr. Alice Němcová Tejkalová, Ph.D.  
**Date of defence:** 16.09.2022    **Venue of defence:** Praha  
**Attempt:** regular

**Course of defence:** Welcome: doc. Alice Němcová Tejkalová

Candidate's presentation:  
Introduction, the aim of the research, sources and framing - coverage differences  
Significance of the study - the importance of climate change and how media report it,  
Research questions presented - different media coverage worldwide.  
Case of Philippines, India, Australia, Denmark  
Data collection and analysis - content analysis (language and framing)  
Findings - Politicians are the primary source for all countries except for Denmark - politicians' role as experts. Climate change is framed as an issue requiring action (except in Australia).  
Limitations - only four countries and only 120 articles for the country, mainly English-speaking media  
Recommendations - relation of authorship and media content in Australia; more Global South analysis; TV and social media analysis.

Reviews read and commented on by the candidate.  
Dr. Annamária Neag (supervisor):  
The important thesis is given its topic.  
A literature review was good.  
Strong methodology.  
The supervisor misses the connection of findings to the literature review, theoretical framing and broader context.  
This well-written dissertation examines an essential aspect of the media discourse on the climate crisis. The literature review and theoretical framework are vital, and so is the methodology. And

although there is a limit to how much one can cover in an MA dissertation, the analysis lacks some depth for the reader to understand why and how these differences came about.  
Suggested Grade: B

doc. Němcová Tejkalová Alice (opponent):  
Important topic.

The part of the thesis is written in journalistic style rather than academic.

According to the Turnitin analysis, in the Theoretical framework, there are repetitively used parts of texts taken with the exact wording from other authors' texts. Those texts are referenced in the thesis, but these parts are not used as direct quotations in quotation marks (as they should be) but as paraphrases. Even though the texts are referenced in the thesis, it is still improper handling of another author's text and should be avoided.

Amina McCauley's thesis is based on reasonable concepts and focuses on a critical topic. A comparison of newspapers in two Global South and Global North countries is an excellent idea, the research was well conducted, and the findings are interesting, even though some of them are not so surprising.

Suggested Grade: C

Candidate's Defence

Candidates agree with objections about the limited numbers of data. However, she says her approach is qualitative.

Improper quotations - admits she made a mistake and explains it is a misunderstanding.

Language - the goal was to make more appealing reading for the potential reader.

Questions asked and answered:

Supervisor: Dr. Annamária Neag (opponent):

In your view, what is the most significant limitation of this project?

Opponent: doc. Alice Němcová Tejkalová

Do you think that the approach of a medium towards climate change can be influenced by the ownership (could there be a difference in the content of a medium published in the Global South but owned by corporations from the Global North and the regional ones)?

How would you compare Danish and Czech media's attitudes to climate change?

Discussion follows

Final Grade announced: C

The thesis is solid and would otherwise be evaluated with B. However, not respecting the correct references is a significant problem; thus, the thesis is assessed with C.

**Result of defence:**

very good (C)

**Chair of the board:**

doc. PhDr. Alice Němcová Tejkalová, Ph.D. ....  
(present)

**Committee members:**

Mgr. Veronika Macková, Ph.D. (present) .....

doc. Robert Silverio, Ph.D. (present) .....

Mgr. Anna Shavit, Ph.D. (present)

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