

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

Academic year: 2019/2020

**Student's name and surname:** Badri Belkania  
**Year of birth:** 1994  
**Student's ID:** 13462799

**Type of the study programme:** Master's (post-Bachelor)  
**Study programme:** International Master in Security, Intelligence and Strategic Studies (IMSISS)

**Branch of study:** International Master in Security, Intelligence and Strategic Studies

**Study Identification Number:** 604631

**Title of the thesis:** Saving President Assad: Russian Impact on the Eruption of the Syrian Civil War  
**Thesis department:** Department of Security Studies (23-KBS)  
**Language of the thesis:** English  
**Language of defence:** English  
**Advisor:** Paola Rivetti, Dr.

**Date of defence:** 16.09.2020      **Venue of defence:** Praha

**Course of defence:** On behalf of the commission, Prof Hynek invited the student to introduce the main tenets of the dissertation, empirical findings, and the methodological/theoretical approach used to obtain and support the reached conclusions. The student explained, in great detail, the motivations for the research and the most crucial points that informed the structure of the dissertation. The student was then asked by dr. Fitzgerald to once again briefly summarise the main conclusions. Prof Hynek proceeded to summarise the reviewer's reports, focusing on the main critical points raised in the reviews. Dr. Butler expressed his perspective on the points raised by the reviewers. The major issue identified is the breadth of the research, which was deemed insufficiently narrow for a Master level dissertation. Further, dr. Butler asked how would the student approached a possible narrowing of the subject matter to better fit the Master level format. The student offered an answer, emphasising the focus on the internal factors instead of engaging international developments as well. Prof Hynek concluded the defence.

<b>Result of defence:</b>	good (E)	
<b>Chair of the board:</b>	prof. PhDr. RNDr. Nikola Hynek, Ph.D., M.A. (present)	.....
<b>Committee members:</b>	Eamonn Butler, Dr. (present)	.....
	Mgr. Petr Špelda, Ph.D. (present)	.....