



## Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Daniele Crespi

Title: From competition to cooperation: Foreign aid policy as a mirror of Sino-Japanese relations in the age of Chinese rise

Programme/year: ISS/2022

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/second reader): supervisor

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
<b>Major Criteria</b>			
	Research question, definition of objectives	<b>10</b>	9
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	<b>30</b>	26
	Methodology, analysis, argument	<b>40</b>	36
<i>Total</i>		<b>80</b>	71
<b>Minor Criteria</b>			
	Sources	<b>10</b>	8
	Style	<b>5</b>	4
	Formal requirements	<b>5</b>	4
<i>Total</i>		<b>20</b>	16
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>	87



## Evaluation

**Major criteria:** This is a solid diploma thesis. Contrary to a vast majority of literature focusing on China-Japan relations, it argues that there are venues for limiting the friction between these two, or, that it is by no means taken for granted that there is a constant struggle and strengthening of Sino-Japanese rivalry. This adds important angle to look at the relationship (and thus whole of Asian security), which is often overlooked due to the dominance of realist analyses of Asian IR. It departs from a sound theoretical grounding, which is conceptualised through a reference to relevant methodological literature. The findings support the hypothesis (or rather, the argument), in a well defined and coherent manner. The only shortcoming of this thesis is a bit of a sloppiness on the side of the author, and the haste with which it was completed. But generally, I do believe it is a good diploma thesis, based on relevant theoretical and methodological foundations, which succeeds in the criteria we put on these theses. I have no problem suggesting it for defence.

**Minor criteria:** Relatively OK.

**Assessment of plagiarism:** None detected.

**Overall evaluation:** Solid thesis, good topic, well executed.

**Suggested grade:** Very good (B-C)

**Signature:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a flourish.