



BA Thesis Evaluation Form

Student's name: Ayken Kasenov

Thesis title: Climate change deniers and believers on the TikTok media platform: similarity and difference in the distribution of their knowledge claims

Name of the supervisor: Jan Balon

Name of the opponent: Linda Coufalová

What are the strengths and weaknesses of the thesis? Please give your reasons for the suggested grade in detail below.

1. *Does the author show understanding of one or more theories, and use theory to generate a hypothesis or to make the problem area more understandable.*

Comments: Yes, the thesis effectively engages with pertinent scholarly perspectives within its chosen research domain and brings a valuable addition to the ongoing discourse regarding communication polarization and fragmentation. In contrast to the initial thesis premise, which initially paid more attention to the role of expertise in discussions surrounding climate change, the incorporation of TikTok as a focal point has brought recent shifts in communication into play and substantially enlarged the original idea of the research. Given the expansive nature of the subject matter, it is unrealistic to anticipate groundbreaking revelations within the confines of a Bachelor's thesis. As the supervisor, I am content with Ayken Kasenov's approach. He demonstrated a level of independence and receptiveness to earlier project feedback. Moreover, he made good use of a variety of resources and skillfully positioned the concept of polarization within the context of the TikTok platform.

2. *Is the research question articulated clearly and properly? Is the research question sufficiently answered in the conclusion?*

Comments: The author pays great attention to articulating research-related questions. He has also succeeded in introducing TikTok algorithms in a relevant manner. The conclusion effectively refers back to the research question

3. *Is the thesis based on relevant research and literature and does it accurately summarize and integrate the information?*

Comments: The resources are sufficient and reasonably selected.

4. *What is the quality of the data or the other sources? Are the sample method, data collection and data analysis appropriate?*



Comments: Yes, the research process is comprehensible and follows a logical structure. The qualitative research design has been carried out in accordance with disciplinary requirements and expectations.

5. *Are the findings relevant to the research question? Are the conclusions of the thesis based on strong arguments?*

Comments: Yes, the text is consistent, focused, and does not contain loosely connected parts or overly general and verbose sections.

6. *Are the author's thoughts distinguished unambiguously from the borrowed ideas?*

Comments: Yes, they are.

7. *Is the thesis containing original/innovative research (in terms of topic, approach, and/or findings)?*

Comments: It was not the purpose of this study; however, it offers intriguing insights into the Tik Tok platform and aligns with the expectations for a Bachelor's thesis.

8. *What is the quality of style and other formal requirements?*

Comments: Formal requirements have been met.

9. *Are there any other strengths and weaknesses of the thesis, which are not included in the previous questions? Please list them if any.*

Comments:

10. *What topic do you suggest for the discussion in the thesis defence?*

Comments:

11. *Declaration that the supervisor has read the result of the originality check in the system: [] Theses [] Turnitin [] Original (Urkund)*

Supervisor's comment on the originality check result: The originality check did not reveal any significant issues.

Overall assessment of the thesis: The assessed Bachelor's thesis satisfies all formal and additional criteria, and I deem it a success. The author has adeptly identified an intriguing and pertinent subject, conducted a comprehensive analysis, and drawn fitting conclusions



(Please, state clearly whether the thesis is or is not recommended for a defence and write the main reasons for the recommendation).

Proposed grade: A

(A- B: excellent, C-D: very good, E: good, F: fail)

Date: 5/9/2023

Signature: