

MASTER'S THESIS EXAMINER REPORT

IEPS – International Economic and Political Studies

Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Thesis title:	Can't Buy Me Love: The Limitations of EU Intervention in Promoting Tunisian Democracy
Student's name:	Kelsey Elizabeth Roman
Referee's name:	Bohumil Doboš

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Contribution and argument (quality of research and analysis, originality)	50	40
	Research question (definition of objectives, plausibility of hypotheses)	15	11
	Theoretical framework (methods relevant to the research question)	15	8
<i>Total</i>		80	59
Minor Criteria			
	Sources, literature	10	7
	Presentation (language, style, cohesion)	5	5
	Manuscript form (structure, logical coherence, layout, tables, figures)	5	5
<i>Total</i>		20	17
TOTAL		100	76

Plagiarism-check (URKUND) match score:

No sign of plagiarism.

Reviewer's commentary according to the above criteria (min. 1800 characters including spaces when recommending a passing grade, min. 2500 characters including spaces when recommending a failing grade):

Firstly, I must state that I'm approaching the thesis basically as an opponent as the first time I've seen the text was after its submission. Nonetheless, the presented text is fairly well written. It focuses on relevant and important topic of the efficiency of the EU policies vis-à-vis the Tunisian democratic transition and thus develops an important case study that might help drafting policies in other similar cases.

There are, in my opinion, two major issues that I feel must be raised. Firstly, the methodological approach should have been much clearer. Obviously, selection of a single case study is correct, but the research design is unclear and leaves much to be hoped for. Secondly, an overview of the events in Tunisia would be much helpful. Given the length of the thesis this wouldn't bring any issues as far as the word limit goes. The current text jumps into the issues without any basic historical overview of the events studied.

Next to that, I'd appreciate utilization of primary sources as the discussion over the EU policies should definitely include the EU documents that are easily available. Finally, the in-text citations are not correctly placed and there are some other minor issues with following the citation norm. Generally, however, the thesis presents a very important topic and reaches relevant conclusions.

Proposed grade (A-B-C-D-E-F): C

Suggested questions for the defence are:

I recommend the thesis for final defence.

Referee Signature

Overall grading scheme at FSV UK:

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE	Quality standard
91 – 100	A	= outstanding (high honor)
81 – 90	B	= superior (honor)
71 – 80	C	= good
61 – 70	D	= satisfactory
51 – 60	E	= low pass at a margin of failure
0 – 50	F	= failing. The thesis is not recommended for defence.