

MASTER'S EXAMINER REPORT

GPS – Geopolitical Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Thesis title:	Analysis of Taiwan ROC as a Geoeconomic Actor: A Case Study of the Taiwanese Semiconductor Industry
Name of Student:	Otto Van Malderen
Referee (incl. titles):	Michael Romancov, Ph.D.
Report Due Date:	September 3 rd , 2023

Comments of the referee on the thesis highlights and shortcomings (following the four numbered aspects of your assessment indicated below).

1) Contribution and argument:

The main research question of the presented thesis was: What geo-economic power does the semiconductor industry generate for Taiwan ROC and how does it use that power? The author chose a challenging and very current topic, which he managed to elaborate on at an excellent level. I highly appreciate that the topic was not only grasped in an excellent way from a theoretical point of view, but the reader was also given the opportunity to see everything essential in a broadly understood historical, geopolitical and political context. I consider the conclusions reached by the author to be convincing and excellently argued.

2) Theoretical and methodological framework:

The author of the thesis decided to frame his research in the context of geo-economics and then connect its approach with the approach of developmental theory. I believe that the way in which both approaches are presented and subsequently applied is the best evidence that the author has made the right decision.

3) Sources and literature:

The work is based on a robust base of academic resources in the field of applied theory and high-quality professional resources in the field of the subject matter itself.

4) Manuscript form and structure:

The manuscript of the thesis reflects all requirements of the GPS program without any doubts. English is not my mother tongue, but I believe that the thesis is written in a very cultured language without any major spelling or stylistic problems.

5) Quality of presentation

In this respect, I have nothing to criticize the text for.

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Contribution (research quality, analysis, and conclusions) (max. 40 points)</i>	39
<i>Theoretical and methodological framework (max. 25 points)</i>	24
<i>Sources and literature (max. 10 points)</i>	10
<i>Manuscript form and structure (max. 15 points)</i>	15
<i>Quality of presentation (grammar, style, coherence) (max. 10 points)</i>	10
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	98
The proposed grade (A-B-C-D-E-F)	A

Suggested questions for the defence are:

I have no follow-up questions for the defense.

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.