



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Artem Samborskyi

Title: Russian threat through the prism of British competitive liberalism

Programme/year: 2022/2023

Author of Evaluation (supervisor): Martin Riegl

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	10
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	30
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	40
<i>Total</i>		80	
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	10
	Style	5	5
	Formal requirements	5	5
<i>Total</i>		20	20
TOTAL		100	100



Evaluation

Major criteria:

The submitted thesis has a clearly defined research question (“Why London perceives Russia’s global posture to be the most serious and imminent threat to the UK’s security”), theoretical framework, and sound epistemological position as well as developed position. The same might be said about the conceptualization part which helps the author to conduct in- depth analysis of the topic. Additionally, the thesis is logically structured, starting with a methodological/theoretical chapter, and literature review, into relevant strategic – documents of the UK and political statements of key British stakeholders (here the analysis is fully up to date). Both theoretical and empirical parts are designed as a coherent analysis and the empirical analysis is well grounded and cogent and one can agree with the conclusions presented.

Minor criteria:

The paper shows no major problems or deficiencies when it comes to formal aspects. The thesis meets all formal criteria required for a master's thesis. The quality of the presentation is high and the language allows fluent reading.

Assessment of plagiarism:

The thesis was checked by URKUND software and there is no indication of rules violation.

Overall evaluation:

I appreciate the choice of the topic, which in times of major updates (refreshes) of strategic documents across regions is highly relevant. Needless to say, Russia’s aggression of 2022 served to a large extent as a catalyst of the process, and major players see Russia as the most disruptive element to security. Nevertheless, any strategic document needs to be based on a solid methodology and robust analysis and understanding of threats. In this context, the author has done a very good job and his conclusions are anything but intuitive. To sum it up, the thesis offers an in-depth analysis of why the UK sees Russia as the key security threat to address today and in the future. Lastly, I would like to highlight Artem’s dedication to finishing his paper despite of very difficult circumstances he was facing.



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Suggested grade: A

Signature: