Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

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Title: Faces of Truth: Analyzing Russian Hybrid Warfare Narratives in NewsFront

Programme/year: SS 2024

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/external assessor):

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	**10**	8
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	**30**	24
	Methodology, analysis, argument	**40**	29
Total		*80*	71
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	**10**	10
	Style	**5**	4
	Formal requirements	**5**	5
Total		*20*	19
TOTAL		*100*	90

Evaluation

Major criteria:

The present work explores the narratives associated with the Russian Hybrid War that resonate on the News Front platform. The author monitors Slovak, Serbian, English and Russian content. A fundamental contribution of the research is the thesis of tailormade propaganda that thematizes events with respect to geographical, cultural or political context. The author captures in a solid way the principles of Russian information warfare and the logic of manipulative news. However, the research lacks a more sophisticated framework through which to systematically track content on the New Front. Thus, the resulting empirical analysis provides an interesting illustration of tailormade and broadly applied narratives in principle but feels shallow in places. On the other hand, one must appreciate the honest empirical work and the author's talented approach to interpreting narratives.

Minor criteria:

Based on the anti-plagiarism software checks, it is formally confirmed that the submitted thesis is original and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, does not, in an ethically unacceptable manner, draw from the works of other authors.

All minor criteria are met.

Overall evaluation:

Overall, the paper offers a fresh look at the often-discussed issue. Well done!

Suggested grade: A/B

Signature: