Review of the diploma thesis by Pavlína Bertlová

EU and UN in Crisis Management

In her diploma thesis, Pavlína Bertlová addresses the issue of cooperation between the European Union and the United Nations in crisis management. She focuses in detail on two case studies – two EU missions in Democratic Republic of Congo – the operations Artemis and EUPFOR Congo. She concludes that the cooperation is mutually advantageous, but there still remain several issues that have to be tackled. She emphasizes the importance of coherent action and highlights the fact that the bilateral EU-UN relationship is in fact trilateral comprising the EU, the UN, and the EU Member States.

The thesis fulfills formal requirements. The language is with minor imperfections. In some places, a better editorial work would be needed – e.g. two-style citation on page 34.

Methodologically, the thesis is sound. The use of case studies is substantiated. The application of a borrowed set of criteria is adequate at the master level. The case studies could have gone slightly deeper in their analysis, but they are not too shallow for reasonable conclusions.

The author worked with an adequate set of literature, comprising a number of primary documents. However, some key documents are clearly missing in the list of literature and there is no reference in the body of text either: especially the absence of the European Security Strategy must be considered a major shortcoming.

In the course of the examination, I would like the author to answer the following questions:
- What will be the impact of the Lisbon Treaty on EU crisis management and future cooperation with the UN?
- What role does NATO and/or the US play in the EU-UN cooperation?

Pavlína Bertlová’s thesis fulfills the requirements of the master theses at the Faculty of Social Sciences. Due to the shortcomings in literature and a certain shallowness of the case studies I suggest the classification very good.

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