



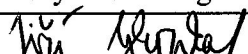
IMESS dissertation						
Name:	Vilius Mačkinis					
Dissertation title:	CONCEPTUALIZING EASTERN EUROPE: PAST AND PRESENT					
Scale: 5 - excellent, 4 - good, 3 - satisfactory, 2 - poor, 1 - very poor						
	5	4	3	2	1	
ARGUMENT:						
Clearly defined research question		X				No clearly defined research question
Answers research question		X				Does not answer research question
Well structured			X			Badly structured
Shows theoretical awareness	X					Shows no theoretical awareness
Conceptual clarity			X			Conceptual confusion
Empirically appropriate & robust		X				Full of empirical errors
Logical and coherent		X				Illogical and incoherent
Analytical		X				Descriptive
Critical			X			Uncritical
Shows independent thought		X				Does not show independent thought
SOURCES & USAGE:						
Evidence of reading/research		X				No evidence of reading/research
Effective use of sources/data		X				Ineffective use of sources/data
WRITING STYLE:						
Clear	X					Obscure
Good punctuation	X					Poor punctuation
Grammatically correct	X					Grammatically incorrect
PRESENTATION:						
Appropriate length	X					Too long/short
Good referencing		X				Poor/inconsistent referencing
Good spelling	X					Poor spelling
Good bibliography			X			Poor bibliography

Comments:

1. The topic is very demanding and the question arises whether this dissertation could meet and satisfy the ambition.
2. Lack of the analysis of the sources – there is no coherent chapter on sources, ie. what is the primary and secondary source here, chapter on historiography was designed for another purpose (and is rather very short), lack of other important authors like F. Dvornik etc. It's always good to say that sources from one language area do provide the author with a specific point of view (lack of sources in German or in local languages)
3. Problems with expression of the concept – instead of independent interpretation the author just reproduces secondary sources (frequent use of “ ibidem” – examples: pp.16 – Le Goff, 23-24 – Delanty, 28 – Parker, 40 – Butterwick, 49 – Szücs, 53 – Hagen, 58 – Berend), repeatin or quoting himself (pp. 29-34/35).
4. Some minor empirical errors or misinterpretations – e.g. p. 38: Renaissance and Reformation moved not East, it moved from South to North (just Renaissance), p. 43 ... Slavophilism. It argued against Russia following the the western pattern of development, while Westernizers advocated the political and cultural models of Europe. Some errors taken from secondary sources).
5. My inclination to C/64 is mostly under the impact of the work with sources

Specific Questions for oral defence:

1. The persistence of East-West axis in thinking about Europe depends mostly on Western perception or Eastern behaviour?
2. Russia – part of Eastern Europe or “just” Russia?
3. We speak about “West European” perspective of “Eastern Europe” – what has been the role of “national” narratives (English, French, German, American)?

Deducted for late submission:	Deducted for faulty referencing:	Mark*: 64/C
Charles marker: Velmi dobře/2	Signed: 	Date: 18.6.2010

*Mark: A = 70+; B = 65-69; C = 60-64; D = 55-59; E = 50-54; F = fail, less than 50, see Scheme of award –please, fill in this way: Charles/IMESS (e.g. Výborně/A)