

## **Supervisor's PhDr Thesis Evaluation**

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Title of the thesis: Bosnia – 15 Years after Dayton

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The thesis offers a detailed analysis of the recent (post-Dayton) constitutional, political, and security development in Bosnia and Hercegovina. The principal idea is to situate the empirical observations within theoretical concept of europeanization. Apparently, both the empirics as well as the chosen theoretical perspective provide highly relevant and topical issues. That said it should be stated beforehand that the author has written an interesting and empirically rich analysis.

The author has declared a principal goal to write an empirically sound thesis anchored in a relevant theoretical concept of europeanization. The theoretical debate on europeanization outlined in the first chapter clearly defines the particular way, in which the concept of europeanization will be applied in the thesis. The three sectors (constituional, political, and security) then allow for efficient operationalization of the concept itself.

Although the concept of europeanization is well-defined and the operationalization sufficient, the argument in some instances lacks the evident connection between the theoretical framework and empirical observations. In these cases the empirical agenda tends to dominate and overload the operationalization of the concept.

Nevertheless, it should be stressed that the author has not attempted to fully render the consequential logic of europeanization but rather illustrate, how this concept could be useful in observing the developments in the above-mentioned sectors. Although I admit that the thesis might not be methodologically absolutely convincing, I find author's strategy as methodological tenable (especially since the author is clearly aware of specific limitations of his approach).

These partially critical points should not overshadow the empirical richness of the thesis and the overall quality of elaboration. As mentioned earlier, the empirical evidence supporting the argument sometimes rather exceeds the scope of the concept applied.

In general, the thesis suffers from decent methodological shortcomings that are, however, openly declared and partially tackled by the author. Moreover, the empirical part can be evaluated as a high-quality academic work. I would also like to appreciate author's exemplary attitude when reflecting our discussions during the writing process. Therefore I fully recommend the thesis for oral defence.

Vít Střítecký