

**UNIVERZITA KARLOVA V PRAZE**  
**Fakulta sociálních věd**  
**Institut mezinárodních studií**

**PROTOKOL O HODNOCENÍ BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE**  
**(Posudek oponenta)**

Práci předložil(a) student(ka): Lucia Vaculová

Název práce: **Rozdelujúce faktory imigračnej politiky v Republikánskej strane: Prípadová štúdia kalifornských zástupcov v Snemovni reprezentantov**

Oponoval (u externích oponentů uved'te též adresu a funkci v rámci instituce):

**Doc. PhDr. Francis D. Raška, PhD.**

1. OBSAH A CÍL PRÁCE (stručná informace o práci, formulace cíle):

This work addresses the issue of immigration policy in the United States and the Republican Party. The author of the B.A. dissertation analyzes the opinions of different factions among the Republican members of Congress representing the State of California. The aim of the author is to analyze the reasons for the different approaches of the Republican congressmen of California to the issue of both legal and illegal immigration.

2. VĚCNÉ ZPRACOVÁNÍ (náročnost, tvůrčí přístup, argumentace, logická struktura, teoretické a metodologické ukotvení, práce s prameny a literaturou, vhodnost příloh apod.):

Lucia Vaculová has chosen quite a demanding topic considering the fact that this is just a B.A. dissertation. Her presentation of the facts is accurate and her argumentation is both sound and valid. In addition, there is evidence of Lucia's ability to work with multiple sources. I have no problem whatsoever with Lucia's methodology.

3. FORMÁLNÍ A JAZYKOVÉ ZPRACOVÁNÍ (jazykový projev, správnost citace a odkazů na literaturu, grafická úprava, formální náležitosti práce apod.):

Though I am no expert on the Slovak language, my knowledge of Czech enables me to understand and read Slovak. I feel that Lucia's presentation is quite clear and her vocabulary is obviously advanced. The referencing is fine and the bibliography demonstrates the wide plethora of sources (primary and secondary) consulted.

4. STRUČNÝ KOMENTÁŘ HODNOTITELE (celkový dojem z bakalářské práce, silné a slabé stránky, originalita myšlenek, naplnění cíle apod.):

Lucia Vaculová has produced a commendable B.A. dissertation dealing with the issue of immigration in the United States and the Republican Party. The work is divided into an Introduction, four main chapters, and a Conclusion. Not only is the topic difficult, but it also required the consultation of primary sources.

In the Introduction, Lucia clearly spells out the structure and the content of the dissertation. She informs the reader that the treatise is a case study and utilizes Petr Drulák's definition of what constitutes a case study. In addition, Lucia briefly critiques the literature. The Introduction is well conceived.

In Chapter 1, Lucia discusses the Republican Party after the 2010 congressional elections. It is pointed out that the Tea Party-supported Republicans are much more conservative than the previous generation of Republicans. Despite a modest setback in 2012, the Republicans held on to their majority in the House of Representatives and the ideological shift to the right continued. Lucia describes well the factions existing within the Republican congressional caucus. This chapter is well conceived and I have no problem with it.

Chapter 2 represents Lucia's analysis of immigration policy. First, she identifies the categories of immigrants admitted to the United States and visa policies and restrictions. Second, Lucia analyzes attempts at immigration reform, various aspects of proposals, and why the proposals were not passed by the House of Representatives. Though brief, this chapter is to the point.

In Chapter 3, Lucia presents her case study, in which she scrutinizes in detail the views on immigration reform of Republican members of congress representing California. California is the most populous state of the U.S. and it contains the largest number of immigrants, both legal and illegal. Three factors that have the greatest impact on the voting decisions of congressmen when it comes to immigration issues are the voting base of the individual congressmen, interest groups and their influence, and the political convictions of the individual congressmen. Great attention is paid to each factor and Lucia manages to point out how each factor influences lawmakers. I feel that this chapter fulfills its purpose.

Chapter 4 demonstrates the differences of opinion among Republican congressmen concerning securing the border with Mexico, illegal immigration, and legal immigration. Lucia uses the factors mentioned in the previous paragraph in her assessment. What she basically shows is just how particular circumstances influence support or lack thereof when it comes to immigration proposals. The matter of illegal immigration is most divisive, whereas

almost no conflict among Republicans is visible when it comes to securing the Mexican border or legal immigration. The chapter is aptly written.

In the Conclusion, Lucia recapitulates her main points and points out which factor is most relevant in voting decisions on specific issues. Her findings are sound and, in my view, valid.

This B.A. dissertation deserves to be defended and I recommend an **excellent** classification.

5. OTÁZKY A PŘIPOMÍNKY DOPORUČENÉ K BLIŽŠÍMU VYSVĚTLENÍ PŘI OBHAJOBĚ (jedna až tři):

What impact is the current international security situation likely to have on Republican attitudes toward both legal and illegal immigration?

6. **DOPORUČENÍ** / NEDOPORUČENÍ K OBHAJOBĚ A NAVRHOVANÁ ZNÁMKA  
(**výborně**, velmi dobře, dobře, nevyhověl): **VÝBORNĚ**

Datum: 31.8.2014

Podpis:

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Pozn.: Hodnocení píše k jednotlivým bodům, pokud nepíšete v textovém editoru, použijte při nedostatku místa zadní stranu nebo příložený list. V hodnocení práce se pokuste oddělit ty její nedostatky, které jsou, podle vašeho mínění, obhajobou neodstranitelné (např. chybí kritické zhodnocení pramenů a literatury), od těch věcí, které student může dobrou obhajobou napravit; poměr těchto dvou položek berte prosím v úvahu při stanovení konečné známky.