

Supervisor's report: Noémie Bürkl – *Migration policies and security in Germany and the EU: border control dilemmas in the 21st century*

The thesis addresses migration which is one of the most important social and political issues in current world. The author is aware of the multi-level nature of migration and therefore she picks up two levels as her focus. She starts with the examination of the evolution of the EU migration policies and following this she looks into national immigration policies which are analysed by the case study of Germany. Her empirical analysis is embedded in a conceptual discussion which links the theoretical concepts of migration, security and human rights. She also points to the tension which emerges between these three concepts.

All in all, the thesis provides a competent analysis of migration policies both in the EU and in Germany. Moreover, an important role of sub-national actors (e.g. Länder, political parties, NGOs, churches) is also acknowledged. The reflection of theoretical and empirical literature is sufficient. The text is divided into four chapters dealing with specific issues which enhances its analytical clarity.

The only major weakness of the thesis is its descriptive focus. A series of assumptions and hypotheses are formulated in the introductory chapters and some of them could be tested empirically by means of the case studies. However, the connection between the hypotheses and the empirical data is at best implicit. A more explicit link would make the text even more transparent and it would also clarify what the research contribution of the thesis is.

However, saying this should in no way diminish uncontested qualities of the submitted thesis which I suggest to grade as excellent.

Prague, June 13, 2006



Doc. Petr Drulák