



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Ladislav Novák

Title: Resilience as the modern approach to cities' security: Critical analysis of the London case

Programme/year: BEZPEČNOSTNÍ STUDIA, 2016/2017

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/external assessor): Katarína Svitková

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	10
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	25
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	35
<i>Total</i>		<i>80</i>	70
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	10
	Style	5	5
	Formal requirements	5	5
<i>Total</i>		<i>20</i>	20
TOTAL		<i>100</i>	90



Evaluation

Major criteria:

The research questions posed are sound and relevant. One of the strong elements of this thesis is the conceptualisation of resilience, including a detailed overview of how the concept evolved and was mobilized across different research and policy fields. The part that is particularly relevant to the approach adopted in the thesis is 2.1.2. As for the empirical part, the section 3.1.1 focused on Institutionalizing resilience is particularly detailed and informative with regards to how the concept evolved in the UK context.

Despite many analytical strengths of this thesis, there are certain gaps in bridging the IPS-informed theoretical background on one hand and the argumentation in some paragraphs on the other hand. For example, on page 14 resilience is presented as a problem-solving tool, beneficial for security of individuals and communities, while the theoretical framework the author adopts in earlier sections would suggest the opposite to be true. Indeed, a critical approach is adopted in the paragraph immediately following the problem-solving one. The thesis would benefit from an explicit distinction between the problem-solving and critical approach, consistently following the latter in the text. Although this distinction is present in the analysis, it is rather implicit and could be formulated in a clearer manner.

Minor criteria:

Style and format adhere to the standard requirements that apply.

Overall evaluation:

This is a well written thesis – the conceptualization, theoretical framework, detailed empirical analysis and interpretation are its main strengths. There are certain gaps in terms of consistency in the argumentation – these could be solved by unifying the critical analytical framework *throughout* the thesis (and not only in section 5). This section indeed provides a valuable critical analysis in line with the theoretical framework.

Suggested grade:

I suggest grade 1, provided that the author is able to summarize the connection between *the IPS theoretical framework and a critical reflection of the resilience concept*, to the satisfaction of the state exam committee.

Signature:

