



## Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Onur Kaya

Title: UN Role in the Mediation of Intractable Conflicts: The Case of Cyprus

Programme/year: International Security Studies, 2015/2016 (thes. proposal)

Author of Evaluation (external assessor): PhDr. Ondřej Kaleta

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



## Evaluation

### Major criteria:

The conceptual framework of intractable conflicts as well as the UN mediation record is introduced in a comprehensive and clear way. The author has made an extensive literature review and has successfully contextualized the chosen case study within the current debate on conflict prevention and resolution. The methodological approach, however, is not sufficiently elaborated and it is included merely in the proposal of the thesis (not in the thesis itself). The same deficiency can be found in terms of hypotheses formulation. The objectives are well defined; however, the relation between the Cyprus case (unique phenomenon?) and the UN mediation of conflicts in general should have been stated more explicitly.

### Minor criteria:

Formal requirements are undoubtedly a strong point of the thesis. The text is very well and logically structured. The author introduces a clear line of arguments based on large reservoir of reliable primary and secondary sources. The appropriate citation norm and other academic standards are respected and strictly followed. The thesis is written in very straightforward and unambiguous style with useful summaries of the main arguments.

### Overall evaluation:

The author provides a detailed empirical study of the historical development of the intractable conflict in Cyprus. Despite its largely descriptive approach and above mentioned issues concerning methodology, the thesis definitely contributes to better understanding of the evolution and complexity of this conflict. Moreover, it comes up with interesting and very valuable findings that can be relevant for further research of the role of mediation activities in intractable or "frozen" conflicts in the world.

### Suggested grade:

A/1

Signature: