



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Bc. Branislav Mičko

Title: Border Barriers in the Modern World: Factors Contributing to Barrier-building Practices in the post-1945 World

Programme/year: MV/2018

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/external assessor): Mgr. Vojtěch Bahenský

| Criteria | Definition | Maximum | Points |
|-----------------------|---|------------|--------|
| Major Criteria | | | |
| | Research question, definition of objectives | 10 | 10 |
| | Theoretical/conceptual framework | 30 | 30 |
| | Methodology, analysis, argument | 40 | 37 |
| <i>Total</i> | | 80 | 77 |
| Minor Criteria | | | |
| | Sources | 10 | 10 |
| | Style | 5 | 4 |
| | Formal requirements | 5 | 3 |
| <i>Total</i> | | 20 | 17 |
| | | | |
| TOTAL | | 100 | 94 |



Evaluation

Major criteria:

The work is overall very good and in some places even excellent. Especially the depth of theoretical framework and obvious invested effort has to be commended, as well as ambition to produce substantive original contribution to the field. At the same time, it is this ambition, that in some places proved too high for both the author and the format and scope of diploma thesis and caused the main problems of the thesis. The theoretical framework seems from some perspective overblown, as it results in unsurprising hypothesis which could have been generated by much easier process. The main problem is sometimes overly arbitrary and abstract approach to operationalization of variables as well as their conceptualization and match with hypothesis. Other problem (or really more of a missed opportunity) is extremely abstract and aggregate data used in the end for regression analysis (when the author actually collected more detailed data) or lack of any control variables (for example number of borders and therefore potential for number of border barriers) and lack of more concerted effort to test causal relation instead of correlation. But all those problems are relatively minor ones for diploma thesis.

Minor criteria:

The work is well written with the notable exception of Czech abstract, which should have been checked by native speaker (as it contains number of grammatical mistakes). At some points, it would be advisable to back the assumptions with more literature.

Overall evaluation:

Excellent diploma thesis with potential to be transformed into more developed and polished publishable research.

Suggested grade:

A

Signature: