



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Alexandre Cuby

Title: Political Ideology and Organizational Structure Comparative analysis of the Hezbollah, the FARC and the PKK

Programme/year: MISS

Author of Evaluation (external assessor): Emil Aslan (Souleimanov)

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	7
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	25
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	37
<i>Total</i>		80	69
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	10
	Style	5	5
	Formal requirements	5	5
<i>Total</i>		20	20
TOTAL		100	89



Evaluation

Major criteria: This thesis presents a fresh look into the relatively under-researched phenomenon of ideology and target selection. The author has familiarized himself with a plethora of scholarly work on this complex issue; in literature review, he has managed to sort out, in a comprehensive fashion, most important studies on it. Yet while the author has done a good job conceptualize the phenomenon of ideology at the outset of his thesis, target selection itself has eluded his attention. Similarly, while the author has identified (sub)segments of the phenomenon in the lit review (pp. 6-21), his thesis fails to follow addressing these segments. (Alternatively, if these segments are not what the author seeks to critically reflect in the thesis, why are they detailed?). The thesis is built as a comparative study, yet an explicit comparative analysis – and a research question that reflects the comparative focus of the thesis – is missing. As a result, the relationship between the case studies and the non-empirical framework (it's not entirely theoretical and only partially conceptually-driven) is loose to say the least.

Minor criteria:

Lit review doesn't relate to a specific research problem. Consequently, the case studies are somehow disconnected from the (implicit) RQ.

Overall evaluation:

The author has illustrated good knowledge of the complex phenomenon. In spite of the shortcomings described above, he has produced a relatively innovative piece of research, presenting his argument boldly and displaying solid analytical skills.

Suggested grade: B

Signature: Emil Aslan (Souleimanov)