

- **Mirakyan, N. (2021). *EU Cultural Relations with Partner Countries: Case Study of Armenia* [Master's Thesis]. Supervisor: Mgr. Eliška Tomalová, Ph.D. Charles University.**

Abstract

International cultural relations are a key area in the EU external relations and, thus, have gained salience in recent research. There is a growing body of constructivist literature that recognizes the importance of this area. However, there is still uncertainty in the literature regarding the views and attitudes of the partner countries toward the international cultural relations policy of the EU. In this vein, the current thesis project studies the sources and trajectory of the development of cultural relations between the EU and Armenia from 2014 to 2020. Furthermore, the suitability of the international relations theory of liberalism is revisited in the light of cultural relations with the partner countries when these countries have concluded politico-economic agreements, and it is namely the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in the case of Armenia. The conceptions of cultural relations are critically analyzed in relation to the theories of international relations in order to develop a normative hypothesis while excluding common conceptual fallacies and unintentional assumptions. The normative hypothesis, formulated through the process of critical analysis, is deductively applied to the case study of Armenia to help us develop a detailed and in-depth understanding of the realities of international cultural relations with Europe within the specified time frame. The conclusive argument of the current project is that the EU-Armenia cultural relations, initially aspired by cultural sector actors, reached institutionalization in the creative sector and need to be nurtured with the shared norms and values from historical identity for better resilience.