



## Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

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Title: Impact of COVID-19 on Security Policies of States in the Area of Cyber Security

Programme/year: ISA, 21/22

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/external assessor): Dr. Petr Spelda

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
<b>Major Criteria</b>			
	Research question, definition of objectives	<b>10</b>	5
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	<b>30</b>	21
	Methodology, analysis, argument	<b>40</b>	31
<i>Total</i>		<b>80</b>	57
<b>Minor Criteria</b>			
	Sources	<b>10</b>	8
	Style	<b>5</b>	2
	Formal requirements	<b>5</b>	4
<i>Total</i>		<b>20</b>	14
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>	71



## Evaluation

### Major criteria:

The thesis examines a relevant issue, dealing with a link between the Covid-19 pandemic and an increased level of cybercrime. Two cases are investigated to substantiate the link empirically, however, they mostly disappear throughout the later stages of the thesis.

First, the introductory part of the thesis suffers from clarity issues, which render the initial exposition difficult to grasp in full. It is clear that the problem is caused by a missing effort to systematically select what to study in order to reduce the width of the area.

From the methodological point view, the questionnaire design, seemingly targeting private companies, does not follow the usual guidelines for survey research, which results in the lack of representativeness. The section aiming to summarize the impact on the public sector is better elaborated, offering a few interesting insights on the changes in the cybersecurity landscape. The conclusion regarding the need to increase international cooperation in cybersecurity is indeed valid, yet it does not find a systematic support in the presented empirical analysis.

### Minor criteria:

Minor criteria are mostly observed, attesting to the diligence of the author. That being said, the thesis would largely benefit from language editing.

Based on the anti-plagiarism software checks, it is formally confirmed that the submitted thesis is original and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, does not, in an ethically unacceptable manner, draw from the works of other authors.

### Overall evaluation:

Overall, the width of the researched area does not fit the format. Moreover, the thesis lacks a coherent research design, allowing it to focus on an area fitting the format. On a positive note, it is clear that the author is well-versed in the cybersecurity fundamentals.



**FACULTY  
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
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Suggested grade: C

Signature

*Peter Spilder*