

**KARLOVA UNIVERZITA V PRAZE**  
**Fakulta sociálních věd**  
**Institut politologických studií**

*Master's Thesis Assessment*

**AUTHOR:** Gergely Nagy

**TITLE OF THE THESIS:** The Aspects of Neo-Ottomanism in Turkish  
Foreign Policies toward Albania, Bosnia  
and Herzegovina and Kosovo

**ASSESSED BY:** Mgr. Kamil Pikal

**ASSESSMENT TYPE:** opponent's assessment

**1. ASSESSMENT OF THE THESIS CONTENT**

ASSESSMENT CATEGORIES	MARK
Relevancy of the topic in relation to the current scientific knowledge	1
Originality of the thesis, contribution to the science subject field	1
Integrity and scale of sources and literature relevant to the subject study	1
Ability for critical appraisal of the sources	1
Standards of working with sources	2
Methodology and its relevancy to the subject study and thesis goals	2
Logic of the thesis structure	1
Ability to argue, cohesion and coherence of the argument	1
Terminology in the relevant field	1
Adhesion to the citation norm	1
Language, stylistic and formal standard of the thesis	2

**COMMENTARY:** The assessed thesis deals with a very relevant topic and I am convinced, that the author came with a considerable contribution to several subjects interested in contemporary Balkans (i.e. Balkanic studies, International relations, etc.). The result of author's work is a text that is original, solid, logically structured, supported by a breathtaking quantity of sources (at least compared with most of other M.A. thesis).

In fact, the conclusion of the thesis is not surprising, and couldn't be. It is one of those papers dealing with concepts that everyone involved in the area presumes, but none has bothered to

examine them. So, the result of author's work is, that intuition shared by many is now replaced by a bulk of robust data.

Since the thesis is mainly empirically oriented, I don't see relatively small space dedicated to explaining used methodology as a really serious insufficiency. However, in case the author considers its publication, this part of thesis should be slightly enlarged.

There is also one misconception while describing used sources (by the way sources, not resources): most of academic writings used in the thesis are classified as primary sources, while they actually aren't. It is possible to use scholarly texts as primary sources (i.e. in papers dealing with history of science, or in any other kind of metanarratives' construction), but in most social sciences papers, including the present thesis, they are generally used as *secondary* sources.

Nevertheless, these are only small mistakes that can hardly change my overall impression of the thesis. I consider it a brilliant outcome of a thorough and rigorous research and propose the commission to nominate the thesis for the Dean's award.

## 2. QUESTIONS FOR THE DEFENSE

*There is a gap in the narrative of evolution of neo-Ottomanism. Were there some more recent antecedents of neo-Ottomanism than late 19<sup>th</sup> century Ottomanists? What is the relation between i.e. Menderes' Democratic Party or Erbakan's Islamist movement to neo-Ottomanism?*

## 3. SUGGESTED MARK 1 (Excellent)

Date: 25/05/2011

Signature: