



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Adéla Bártová

Title: Understanding NATO's Intervention in Non-Member States: The Case of Operation Kosovo Force

Programme/year: International Relations, 2024

Author of Evaluation (~~supervisor~~/second reader): Adéla Sedlecká

| Criteria | Definition | Maximum | Points |
|-----------------------|---|------------|--------|
| Major Criteria | | | |
| | Research question, definition of objectives | 10 | 10 |
| | Theoretical/conceptual framework | 30 | 30 |
| | Methodology, analysis, argument | 40 | 35 |
| <i>Total</i> | | 80 | 75 |
| Minor Criteria | | | |
| | Sources | 10 | 9 |
| | Style | 5 | 5 |
| | Formal requirements | 5 | 5 |
| <i>Total</i> | | 20 | 19 |
| | | | |
| TOTAL | | 100 | 94 |



Evaluation

Major criteria:

The master's thesis investigates NATO's intervention in Kosovo through a discourse-historical approach. The thesis is structured into two parts: the first examines the relationship between shifts in NATO's official discourse and the norm of human rights, while the second explores the role of NATO's collective identity within the discourse of its member states. The student clearly delineates her research questions and articulates the potential contributions of her thesis.

Although the thesis focuses on NATO's intervention in Kosovo in 1999, specifically within the timeframes "the end of the Cold War to 1999" and "from late 1998 to 1999," it may appear outdated, even though the author argues for the topic's scholarly, political, and historical relevance to the field of international relations. The narratives employed by NATO to justify its extraterritorial involvement remain an engaging subject.

The literature review is well-crafted, with the student effectively incorporating the potential contributions of her thesis and addressing the current state of knowledge. The research gap is clearly defined, and the theoretical section encompasses a broad spectrum of concepts pertinent to the thesis.

The chosen research method aligns appropriately with the thesis's objectives. In the first part of the analysis, the student utilizes "documents produced by NATO and statements of NATO's political representatives." However, it would be advantageous to specify the exact types of documents used. In the second part, the selection of speeches from representatives of specific states is well justified. Nevertheless, while the student examines the discourse of four member states, the analysis lacks a comparative approach between these states. This is noteworthy because the theoretical section previously described the differing approaches of these selected states toward NATO and Kosovo. However, the results of this analysis are not sufficiently commented upon. The final discussion requires further development to thoroughly address the findings.

Minor criteria:

The thesis is well-structured, adhering to an appropriate academic style and meeting all formal requirements.

Assessment of plagiarism: 5%



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Overall evaluation:

The thesis is well-written. The literature review effectively identifies the research gap, while the theoretical framework clearly establishes the foundation for the analysis. The analysis itself is thorough and well-executed. However, the analytical section would benefit from a comparative approach to the discourse of the selected states. Additionally, while the topic of NATO's intervention in Kosovo in 1999 may seem outdated, the thesis nonetheless offers valuable insights. In conclusion, the thesis is of high quality.

Suggested grade: A

Signature: