

CHARLES UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Institute of Political Studies (IPS)

Department of Security Studies

Master thesis

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**What are the Unveiling Factors Shaping the
Outcome of Military Interventions in the Middle
East?**

A Comparative Analysis of Syria and Libya

Master's thesis

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Abstract

This thesis evaluates the outcomes of military interventions in the Middle East, with a focus on NATO's intervention in Libya and Russia's intervention in Syria. The study aims to test a comprehensively developed framework for assessing the outcome of military interventions. Consequently, this comprehensive framework allowed us to examine how certain factors determined the outcome of specific aspects of these interventions. This thesis is motivated by the absence of a qualitative, holistic approach in evaluating interventions and the often-oversimplified analysis of their determinants for success or failure. The study evaluates the success of military intervention based on the following criteria: political objective achievement, strategy effectiveness, acceptable cost, and the facilitation of long-term stability. Furthermore, it examines the socio-economic, political, ideological, and regional factors that have dictated the outcome of these interventions.

By demonstrating the applicability of the conceptual framework, the thesis argues that its theoretical implications could serve as a springboard for crafting a universally accepted standard for evaluating military interventions. Moreover, findings found that the success of military interventions is closely linked to the interplay of multiple factors, including the strategic alignment with political goals, the economic and political stability of the host nation, internal fragmentation, and regional geopolitical dynamics. Hence, this thesis argues for a nuanced understanding of military interventions, emphasizing the critical role of a broad conceptual framework in evaluating outcomes and underscores the importance of a comprehensive stance when investigating the factors that have contributed to this outcome. Accordingly, this study fills a critical gap in academic discourse and also offers pragmatic insights for policymakers and military strategists.

Keywords:

Military Intervention, NATO, Russia, Success, Factors, Libya, Syria