

MASTER'S EXAMINER REPORT

GPS – Geopolitical Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Thesis title:	Geopolitical Representations of Russia and Ukraine in the Spanish Version of Russia Today news media
Name of Student:	Laura Tatiana Perez Molina
Referee (incl. titles):	Bohumil Doboš
Report Due Date:	21.8.2024

Comments of the referee on the thesis highlights and shortcomings (following the four numbered aspects of your assessment indicated below).

1) Contribution and argument: The presented thesis develops a very interesting and up-to-date analysis of the Russian information campaign in Spanish-speaking, primarily Latin American countries. It analyses discourses presented via the Spanish mutation of RT, highlighting how does Moscow attempt to shape the information environment and develop alternative geopolitical representations of its aggression against Ukraine. While, in general, the research is conducted well, the selected approach has two issues that somehow limit the contribution of the thesis. First, it uses a time framework between the end of April to beginning of July 2024 which is a short and specific. It is not well explained why such a timeframe is a good choice or what are the limitations stemming out of it. Second, it misses explicit answers to the selected research questions.

2) Theoretical and methodological framework: The thesis utilizes critical discourse analysis which is a relevant and well utilized methodology. The thesis is rooted in critical (popular) geopolitics which is also fitting. However, "Literature review" mixes together theory and methodology – review of methodological approaches of discourse analysis are named as a theory. Despite that there are no major issues with this aspect of the work

3) Sources and literature: The thesis uses valid and sufficient literature. Citations are correctly done.

4) Manuscript form and structure: The structure and form of the thesis are good.

5) Quality of presentation: There are some minor language issues and problems with some formulations, but the text is well-legible and there is no issue with understanding it.

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Contribution (research quality, analysis, and conclusions) (max. 40 points)</i>	33
<i>Theoretical and methodological framework (max. 25 points)</i>	23
<i>Sources and literature (max. 10 points)</i>	10
<i>Manuscript form and structure (max. 15 points)</i>	15
<i>Quality of presentation (grammar, style, coherence) (max. 10 points)</i>	8
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	89
The proposed grade (A-B-C-D-E-F)	B

Suggested questions for the defence are:

What were the reasons for the selection of the specific timeframe of the research? Are there any problems related to such a narrow delimitation?

I recommend the thesis for final defence.

Referee Signature

Overall grading scheme at FSV UK:

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE	Quality standard
91 – 100	A	= outstanding (high honor)
81 – 90	B	= superior (honor)
71 – 80	C	= good
61 – 70	D	= satisfactory
51 – 60	E	= low pass at a margin of failure
0 – 50	F	= failing. The thesis is not recommended for defence.