EPS { European Politics and Society

Name of the student:	William Malaterre
Title of the thesis:	"ISIS Brides or Failed Citizens": a Comparative Media Frame Analysis of ISIS female members in the context of citizenship deprivation debates in France and the United Kingdom.
Reviewer:	Dr Karolina Czerska-Shaw

1. KNOWLEDGE AND CONNECTION TO THE FIELD
(relevance of the research question, research objective, literature review):

(RQs) *First, how are ISIS female (potential) returnees' citizenship comparatively framed across the British and French media landscape? Second, reflecting on the results found, what role does gender and race play within these media frames on imagining citizenship?* The research questions, whilst on the surface quite straightforward and partially descriptive, offer a unique window onto the complex concept of citizenship and how it is constructed in the French and British contexts. It offers this by analysing an extreme case study of the deprivation of citizenship and what this means to both nations, whilst also reflecting on gendered and racial constructions thereof. It is a timely, well-researched and nuanced account of the limits of citizenship. The literature review is impressive – the student has done his reading on the subject of citizenship, the case studies under question, and media framing.

2. ANALYSIS
(methodology, argument, theoretical backing, appropriate work with sources):

The methodology is very clearly identified, as is the sample and process of coding. The methodology chosen (frame analysis) is challenging, but the student has taken note of this and done his research on discourse analysis and framing. While the sample itself is rather small (although within the regular expectations of an MA thesis), the analysis is quite rich (one could say perhaps too complex, given the comparison between two countries and both left, centre and right wing media in both). The theoretical framework used is well chosen and well operationalised in the analysis.

3. CONCLUSIONS
(persuasiveness, link between data and conclusions, achievement of research objectives):

The conclusions are complex, a reflection of the thesis itself. There are many insightful reflections, some if which get lost in the density of the analysis (as cited above, the double comparison here is quite a lot). Yet there are very interesting takeaways that are impressive for an MA thesis.

4. FORMAL ASPECTS AND LANGUAGE
(appropriate language, adherence to academic standards, citation style, layout):

Excellent

5. SUMMARY ASSESSMENT
(strong and weak point of the dissertation, other issues)

The dissertation in my view is an excellent piece of research that is very strong theoretically and conceptually. The analysis itself is quite rich, although the corpus of data could have been somewhat bigger. The student has been able to work very independently, and his intellectual maturity shows in the work. One small recommendation - the thesis takes on a very clear liberal-left perspective, which could have been somehow positioned here more transparently.

Grade (A-F):	A

Date:	Signature:
20.09.2024	*K. Olivshaw*

classification scheme

Percentile	Prague		Krakow		Leiden		Barcelona	
A (91–100)	91–100 %	8,5%	5	6,7%	8,5–10	5,3%	9–10	5,5 %
B (81–90)	81–90 %	16,3%	4,5	11,7%	7.5–8.4	16.4%	8–8,9	11,0 %
C (71–80)	71–80 %	16,3%	4	20%	6,5–7,4	36,2%	7–7,9	18,4 %
D (61–70)	61–70 %	24%	3,5	28,3%			6–6,9	35,2 %
E (51–60)	51–60 %	34,9%	3	33,4 %	6–6,4	42,1 %	5–5,9	30,1 %

Assessment criteria:

Excellent (A): 'Outstanding performance with only minor errors';
Very good (B): 'Above the average standard but with some errors';
Good (C): 'Generally sound work but with a number of notable errors';
Satisfactory (D): 'Fair but with significant shortcomings';
Sufficient (E): 'Performance meets the minimum criteria';
Fail: 'Some/considerable more work required before the credit can be awarded'.