

Assessment of Master Thesis – Academic Consultant



Study programme: **International Economic Relations**

Field of study: **International and Diplomatic Studies**

Academic year: **2013/2014**

Master Thesis Topic: **People's Republic of China at the United Nations-voting and how it corresponds to Chinese foreign policy**

Author's name: **Bc. Zuzana Vedralová**

Ac. Consultant's Name: **Mgr. Ing. Radka Druláková, Ph.D.**

Opponent: **Mgr. Nicolas Maslowski, Ph.D.**

	Criterion	Mark (1–4)
1.	Overall objective achievement	1
2.	Logical structure	1
3.	Using of literature, citations	1
4.	Adequacy of methods used	1
5.	Depth of analysis	1
6.	Self-reliance of author	1
7.	Formal requirements: text, graphs, tables	1
8.	Language and stylistics	1

Comments and Questions:

The Submitted Master Thesis pays attention to a quite topical issue as it deals with the behaviour of China in foreign policy. The author decided to focus on the specific issue related to the Chinese voting within the United Nations Security Council. The purpose of the Thesis is " ... to find an answer to whether the UNSC is used rather as a tool in order to achieve the individual national interests rather than primarily pursue the main aim of the institution ..." (p. 10). The conclusion leaves no doubts that this purpose has been fulfilled in full.

The structure of the Thesis is logical and internally coherent. It is divided into four parts, the first part provides solid theoretical framework for further analysis. If I had to be strict, the operationalisation of the research questions could be more elaborated, especially in the case of hidden veto analysis, however, there are many difficulties when collecting source data and the way of overcoming these objective obstacles is more than satisfying.

The work with literature is exemplary and the list of sources is representative. The author consulted the workflow regularly, thus, I have no objections to the text. I fully recommend it for the defense and suggest classifying the MT as excellent.

During the defense, Zuzana could use the same theoretical framework for comparing Chinese voting with Russian voting behaviour. Further, she could categorize the most influential factors affecting their mutual relations within the UNSC and assess their dynamics.

Conclusion: The Master Thesis is recommended for the defence.

Suggested Grade: **1**

Date: 04. 05. 2014

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