

Posudek oponenta diplomové práce

Studijní program: **Mezinárodní ekonomické vztahy**

Studijní obor: **International and Diplomatic Studies**

Akademický rok: **2013/2014**

Název práce: **Defining "International Community" in the Context of Current International Politics**

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Vedoucí práce: **prof. PhDr. Zuzana Lehmannová, CSc.**

Oponent: **Ing. Jan Martin Rolenc**

	Hlediska	Stupeň hodnocení
1.	Stupeň splnění cíle práce	2
2.	Logická stavba práce	3
3.	Práce s literaturou, citace	3
4.	Adekvátnost použitých metod	2
5.	Hloubka analýzy ve vztahu k tématu	3
6.	Vlastní přístup k řešení	2
7.	Formální úprava práce	2
8.	Jazyková a stylistická úprava práce	2

Konkrétní připomínky a dotazy k práci:

The author has gone a long way in devising the thesis which, however, still lacks some degree of perfection.

The choice of an analysis of the concept of "international community" undoubtedly belongs to the positives of the thesis. It is an often-used (or over-used?) term, a buzzword which is never properly defined and understood variably across time and space. Another strength of the thesis are the author's attempts to consciously elaborate his own research method and framework and, relatively often, to analyze the issues himself instead of only repeating other authors' views.

In general, the goal of the thesis has been met. The author provides several definitions, as well as an overall assessment of the concept of "international community". He adds some criteria of his own. However, the analytical framework is not consistent enough. It is not evident what is the relationship between some of the terms (e.g. between the "semantic" and the "historical" definition). The comparison of "international society" and "international community" is useful, insightful. However, they are often used inconsistently (especially in the applied section, i.e. chapter 2) and it is doubtful whether the author himself understands how he uses them (cf. sentences such as "... the Christian European community was a well-organized society with clear rules on how to behave within the community" – p. 14).

The author builds upon interesting sources and sometimes provides insightful citations (unfortunately, often in footnotes) and (some) appendices. However, the range of sources could have been broader, more representative. Some authors should have been quoted directly (instead of e.g. Tönnies in Dupuy – p. 8 and onwards). In addition, some sources are not properly listed in the bibliography (e.g. missing article Volumes, Numbers).

Once again, it can be appreciated that the author attempted to produce his own research design, ideas, and arguments. On the other hand, some thoughts or parts of the text seem rather descriptive, they repeat well-known facts or even clichés which, actually, weaken the argumentative strength of the text. Sometimes, the author contradicts himself (e.g. in chapter 2.2.2 he claims the "common enemy" is poverty, while in the conclusion, he states that "the common enemy is protectionism and barriers..." – p. 49; in a short note about globalization – pp. 40-41, he speaks about "emerging" international society which could "transform" into an international community, while throughout the text he assumes that certain "international communities" exist).

Finally, the author's style is sometimes too emotional, making an impression that the author lacks certain distance, or objectivity. The used language also symbolizes an overall problem of the thesis – it is doubtful

whether the author wants to define the "international community" as it is ("realist" approach) or as it should be (normative approach). This issue also prevents him from coming to a clear, straightforward conclusion. He seems to be even unsure whether the "international community" exists.

Overall, the thesis meets the required criteria and can be recommended for defence. The suggested grade is "good".

Questions for defence: 1/ Elaborate more on the differences between the concepts of international system, society, and community. 2/ Who represents the "international community" in the case of the current crisis in Syria?

Závěr: Diplomovou práci **doporučuji k obhajobě.**

Navrhovaná výsledná klasifikace práce: **3**

Datum: 10. 09. 2013

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oponent práce