

Assessment of Master Thesis – Academic Consultant



Study programme: **International Economic Relations**

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

Academic year: **2017/2018**

Master Thesis Topic: **National Identity and the European Union: case study of Brexit**

Author's name: **Leslie Oghenekaro Etijoro**

Ac. Consultant's Name: **Ing. Jan Martin Rolenc, Ph.D.**

Opponent: **Ing. Tomáš Doležal, Ph.D.**

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

Comments and Questions:

The thesis deals with a current topic and attempts to apply a suitable theory (poststructuralism) and methods (content/discourse analysis). The declared objective has been already discussed in academic literature, some of which the author quotes; therefore, the thesis rather than presenting original and unpublished results helps to understand the topic. In general, the objective is met and the conclusions are meaningful and comprehensible.

The author's work is most damaged by a low formal quality of the thesis. Citations in the text have differing forms and several of them are not mentioned in the list of sources (e.g. David 2013; Peers 2016; Thielemann 2016; etc.). There are formal mistakes such as page numbering from the very first page, mistakes in the Contents (actually, chapters 1.1.2. and 1.4. are missing in the thesis!), differing line spacing, no appendices are mentioned in the text and some are not really necessary to be included (e.g. Appendix 1. The development of Common Agricultural Policy). There are also language mistakes (spelling errors such as „discuss“ instead of „discourse“, „in other“ instead of „in order“, missing words in sentences, etc.) and the overall style of the thesis is not good as the text is hard to read and understand.

However, due to the fact that the major problems are related to the form rather than to the content, analysis, and conclusions of the thesis, and that there are improvements in comparison with the first version of the thesis, particularly in the key chapters 2 and 3, I recommend the thesis for defence and suggest to mark it very good or good based on the opponent's review and the defence.

Questions for defence: 1) Explain the difference between the English and the British identity or the Englishness and Britishness. Is "Brexit" (linked to British, Britain, etc. rather than to English) a good label of what happened? 2) If the referendum on Brexit repeated today, what would be the result (according to the latest polls or estimates)?

Conclusion: The Master Thesis is recommended for the defence.

Suggested Grade: **2**

Date: 30/12/2017

Ing. Jan Martin Rolenc, Ph.D.
Academic Consultant