

Assessment of Master Thesis – Academic Consultant



Study programme: **International Economic Relations**

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

Academic year: **2018/2019**

Master Thesis Topic: **The Energy Security Dilemma of the European Union in the 21st Century**

Author's name: **Martin Mareš**

Ac. Consultant's Name: **Ing. Mgr. Markéta Votoupalová, Ph.D.**

Opponent: **Ing. Zbyněk Dubský, 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	2
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 thesis aims at researching a very relevant topic of energy security in the EU. Drawing on the theoretical concept of security dilemma, it explores the options the EU has regarding securing its energy security vis a vis various energy partners. The thesis is logically structured, research questions and hypotheses are clearly stated. The findings are systematically presented. The employment/ operationalization of the theoretical concepts could be more rigorous and systematic, however, I consider it sufficient. Personally, I would suggest a more straightforward structure of the thesis which is rather complex. However, as the student claims 'The point of the thesis was to introduce the reader with the complexity of energy security and the current dilemma that the EU is facing.' and he manages to do so. Also, the thesis would benefit from a more rigorous methodological framework. The formal aspects are very good and the student has proven excellent skills in using the English language. The list of references is sufficient.

Overall, I recommend the thesis for defence and suggest the following questions for discussion: 1) What is your personal take on the Nord Stream 2 project? 2) How would the Czech Republic benefit (lose) from it?

Conclusion: The Master Thesis is recommended for the defence.

Suggested Grade: **1**

Date: 29/04/2019

Ing. Mgr. Markéta Votoupalová, Ph.D.
Academic Consultant