

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: **Russian geopolitical interests in Eastern Ukraine and scenarios of future development**

Author's name: **Daniel Hänninen**

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

Opponent: **Mgr. Miloslav Machoň, 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	3
5.	Depth of analysis	3
6.	Self-reliance of author	2
7.	Formal requirements: text, graphs, tables	1
8.	Language and stylistics	1

Comments and Questions:

The thesis satisfies the Faculty's basic requirements. The goal is well focused, topical and relevant. The author proves a very good orientation in the topic.

However, the thesis has some relatively serious shortcomings. The analysis of theory lacks depth and the various concepts are not interrelated. Most of the "theoretical" chapter is actually descriptive and historical. The thesis should quote more academic sources, especially articles or other scholarly papers, and primary sources. The in-text citations should be more frequent. The scenario analysis in chapter 4 is reasonable but it is more journalistic than academic. There are also some minor formal and language mistakes.

Due to the above, I recommend the thesis for defence and propose to mark it "very good" or "good" based on the opponent's review and the defence.

Questions: 1) What was the exact role of game theory in the scenario analysis? How did you apply the "chicken game" in chapter 4? 2) Is there any way for the international community to force Russia to stop interfering, especially militarily, into Ukraine's matters?

Conclusion: The Master Thesis is recommended for the defence.

Suggested Grade: **2**

Date: 19/05/2019

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