

Assessment of Master Thesis – Opponent



Study programme: **International Economic Relations**

Field of study: **International Politics and Diplomacy**

Academic year: **2018/2019**

Master Thesis Topic: **Security Externalities of the Chinese Maritime Silk Road Initiative in the Indian Ocean, with Focus on Sino-Indian Competition**

Author's name: **Bc. Hana Burešová**

Ac. Consultant's Name: **Jeremy Alan Garlick, M.A., Ph.D.**

Opponent: **Ing. PhDr. Radka Havlová, 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	2
6.	Self-reliance of author	1
7.	Formal requirements: text, graphs, tables	1
8.	Language and stylistics	1

Comments and Questions:

The submitted Master's thesis presents a very up-to-date topic of security externalities of the Chinese Maritime Silk Road Initiative in the Indian Ocean with special focus on the Sino-Indian competition.

The paper has a logical structure and nicely links the theoretical approach focusing on the theory of economic statecraft with the case study of the Maritime BRI and its impact on the Sino-Indian relations. All chapters are linked to the central topic of the thesis, they are presented in an analytical way and issue from a wide range of literature.

Although the first part of the thesis is a little bit more descriptive, the case studies of Sri Lanka and Pakistan are presented in an excellent way and serve as a good background for the analysis of the impact of the Maritime Silk Road on the relations between India and China. I also appreciate the student took into account the role of other actors in the region, such as the US or Japan, when analyzing the strategic competition in the Indian Ocean.

The student refers well to resources, the text also includes maps and graphs which are helpful in understanding the analyzed topic. The thesis thus fulfills all requirements and can be recommended for defense with suggested grade "A" (excellent, "1").

Question for defense: What do you consider to be the main threats for implementation of the Chinese Maritime Silk Road in the Indian Ocean?

Conclusion: The Master Thesis is recommended for the defence.

Suggested Grade: **1**

Date: 12/07/2019

Ing. PhDr. Radka Havlová, Ph.D.

Opponent