

IMSIS Dissertation Feedback & Mark Sheet

Student Matriculation No.	Glasgow 2337955 DCU 17116317 Charles 23550546
Dissertation Title	The cyber-transition of the electricity sector and V-4 energy cooperation

INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTION GRADING

Reviewer 1 Initial Grade <i>For internal use only</i>	Reviewer 2 Initial Grade <i>For internal use only</i>	Late Submission Penalty <i>no penalty</i>
Word Count Penalty (1 UofG grade point per 500 words below/above the min/max word limit +/- 10%)		
Word Count: 21.177 Suggested Penalty: no penalty		

JOINT GRADING (subject to agreement of the external examiner and approval at Joint Exam Board)

Final Agreed Mark. (Following correspondence reviewers should list the agreed final internal grade taking before and after any penalties to be applied).

Before Penalty: A5 [18] **After Penalty:** A5 [18]

DISSERTATION FEEDBACK

Assessment Criteria	Rating
A. Structure and Development of Answer	
This refers to your organisational skills and ability to construct an argument in a coherent and original manner	
• <i>Originality of topic</i>	Very Good
• <i>Coherent set of research questions and/or hypothesis identified</i>	Excellent
• <i>Appropriate methodology and evidence of effective organisation of work</i>	Very Good
• <i>Logically structured argument and flow of ideas reflecting research questions</i>	Very Good
• <i>Application of theory and/or concepts</i>	Very Good
B. Use of Source Material	
This refers to your skills to select and use relevant information and data in a correct manner	
• <i>Evidence of reading and review of published literature</i>	Excellent
• <i>Selection of relevant primary and/or secondary evidence to support argument</i>	Excellent
• <i>Critical analysis and evaluation of evidence</i>	Good
• <i>Accuracy of factual data</i>	Very Good
C. Academic Style	
This refers to your ability to write in a formal academic manner	
• <i>Appropriate formal and clear writing style</i>	Excellent
• <i>Accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation</i>	Excellent
• <i>Consistent and accurate referencing (including complete bibliography)</i>	Excellent
• <i>Is the dissertation free from plagiarism?</i>	Yes
• <i>Evidence of ethics approval included (if required based on methodology)</i>	Not required

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- *Appropriate word count*

Yes

ADDITIONAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

Reviewer 1

The thesis "The cyber-transition of the electricity sector and V-4 energy cooperation" explores a relatively neglected topic in the literature of the cyber security. However, as it is pointed out by the author, this could be explained by the difficulty of the topic itself, and by its inevitable technicalities. In this sense, the general research question is definitely appropriate and the case study is pertinent to focusing the attention to 4 important countries, whose importance can be understood also by the arguments presented in the thesis. Then, the arguments are presented in a coherent framework, whose conception is fairly original and definitely sharp to hit the main target. In addition, it is structured in very logical way giving to the reader what is needed to follow the topic in detail. The application of the theory and framework is consistent and definitely satisfactory. The evidence brought to sustain the main arguments are sufficient to the task and the methodological discussion is quite interesting and well planned: it considers also the potential limits of the analysis, which is always a good feature. The thesis shows also sufficient level of critical thinking applied to the topic. In addition, the thesis is very well written, it is accurately referenced in a very substantive selection of work (perfectly reported in the bibliography). Only minor concerns could be found and I suggest two: 1. I would have expanded the notion of "cognitive control" to discuss the influential debate on soft power as it was conceived by Joseph Nye. 2. The thesis could have considered more the role of power (soft and hard) inside this crucial domain. Indeed, it is a thesis on the role of cyber security inside the electricity sector. This could have been done in the part 6, inside the discussion of each country policy toward the electricity sector (pp. 29-41): it is true that there is not much research on the topic from this specific perspective, which is a very good point made by the author. However, a more broad analysis of the geopolitical influences (from within and from without) could have been beneficial. That said, the thesis still remain a very well written piece of research on a relatively less explored topic, whose contents and shape are quite valuable.

Reviewer 2

The dissertation intends to analyse an under-researched and challenging topic of the security implications that has accompanied electricity network transitions in the V4 countries. I highly appreciate the effort to link the involved technical and socio-political perspectives. In this vein, the paper interestingly introduces the concept socio-technical imaginaries that appear to be perfectly fitting the issue at hand. Additionally, I value the empirical side of the dissertation, as the author has managed to successfully cover four linguistically challenging contexts. This is even more valuable considering the fact that the strategic milieu of all four countries are shifting quite rapidly. My main objection is related to the methodological part which I find rather overloaded. Mainly, the discussion refers to several critical notions that are largely inconsequential for the empirical analysis. Given the quality of the conceptual discussion and of the synthesis, a more clear-cut methodology would suffice, making the overall design more coherent. Finally, the dissertation would deserve a more elaborated conclusion. Overall, this is an exceptionally original dissertation, both from the empirical as well as conceptual standpoint, which suffers from a minor methodological issue.