

Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Atandra Ray

Title: Disinformation and Propaganda as Tools of Influence in Cyber Space: How do Chinese Information Operations Differ from the Russian Ones? In What Way are They Similar and in What Way are They Different and Why? A Comparative Case Study of China and Russia.

Programme/year: ISSA

Author of Evaluation (supervisor): David Erkomaishvili

Criteria	Definition	Maximu	Points
		m	
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	8
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	20
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	20
Total		80	48
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	5
	Style	5	2
	Formal requirements	5	2
Total		20	18
TOTAL		100	66



Evaluation

Major criteria:

Overall, it is a very promising work. It timely explores the development of Chinese propaganda and disinformation in its influence cyber operations. It then takes it to compare with Russian one. The work goes deep in exploring the organizational structure of both models that China and Russia use. It contextualizes the models and explains the essence of their use in the current situation.

On the weaker side of the work, however, more academic sources needed. Methodology is not explained in detail. There is more explanation missing on the case study method and why it had been chosen. Very good literature overview is presented in the work, but more academic sources linked to it would benefit the work.

The thesis was submitted without agreeing with me as Supervisor. I have not seen the full draft before the submission.

Minor criteria:

Citations are not in line with the requirement mostly as far as the formal side is concerned. Hyperlinks are there, but this needs to be formally wrapped in the correct format (Chicago, MLA etc).

Assessment of plagiarism:

Plagiarism control check is 18% and is available here https://secure.urkund.com/view/136196956-996736-105321

Based on the anti-plagiarism software checks, it is formally confirmed that the submitted thesis is original and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, does not, in an ethically unacceptable manner, draw from the works of other authors.

Overall evaluation:

The thesis has great potential. I suggest working more on the work and resubmitting it with all formal requirements fulfilled.



Signature:

11 September 2022

Dr David Erkomaishvili