



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Bc. Adam Novák

Title: Internet governance in Putin's Russia - a long term perspective

Programme/year: BS, 2021/2022

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/second reader): Prof. Vit Stritecky

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	9
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	25
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	33
<i>Total</i>		80	67
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	10
	Style	5	4
	Formal requirements	5	5
<i>Total</i>		20	19
TOTAL		100	86



Evaluation

Major criteria:

The thesis examines Kremlin's approach to Internet governance, with the emphasis on digital authoritarianism. The research focuses on whether Russia learnt from the recent wave of revolutions involving Internet and strengthen its tools for controlling the digital domain. The thesis suffers from a conceptual underdevelopment. This issue is manifested as an unpersuasive argument about Russia's learning from other revolutions. Instead of learning, it seems that Russia's reaction was simply an attempt to mitigate a new risk. It could be argued that there was no 'constructivist'/'processual' learning going on.

Minor criteria:

All minor criteria are observed; however, an excessive use of footnotes suggests a lesser capability to relate key points in a concise manner.

Assessment of plagiarism:

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.



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Overall evaluation:

Overall, this is a solid piece of research that manages to provide a comprehensive review of the development of Russia's digital authoritarianism. Even despite some conceptual issues, the thesis offers a sound analysis, engaging a relevant selection of the literature.

Suggested grade: B (86)

Signature: