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Charles University

Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Héctor Moncada Bravo

Title: Identity Discourse in Western Liberal Democracies: ETA During the Years 1998 - 2018

Programme/year: International Relations (MAIN) 2023

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/second reader):

PhDr. Sarah Komasová, Ph.D. (supervisor)

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	**10**	10
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	**30**	29
	Methodology, analysis, argument	**40**	35
Total		***80***	74
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	**10**	7
	Style	**5**	4
	Formal requirements	**5**	5
Total		***20***	16
TOTAL		***100***	90

Evaluation

Major criteria:

This thesis witnessed a very long development during which the work was substantively refocused and reshaped. In the end, this process led to a significant progress in the overall quality of the text, which might be a rather rare outcome.

Research questions are well defined and grounded in theory and an appropriate method is chosen to answer them. The thesis might be considered slightly long in the opening chapters describing ETA's history and introducing the theoretical framework. In these sections occasionally some still too vague and broad formulations, which are not that innovative as presented, occur (e.g.: "Language fractures a community because it produces several *realities* or perspectives. Therefore, paradoxically enough, language may be the beginning of violence instead of a tool used to prevent or de-escalate conflicts."). Nevertheless, despite of these detours, the author is able to define his goals and to keep the focus throughout the thesis and proposes a clearly shaped outcome.

In terms of methodology, the thesis is specific by the scope of the texts analysed, which might place challenges to the method of corpus compilation. However, the author succeeds in putting together a corpus that is systematic in regard to the research question and covers the decisive phases of discourse development needed for the analysis. The discourse analysis itself is then aptly executed. I would particularly like to emphasise author's systematic approach to the texts and his significant discursive sensitivity, which he uses not only to identify but also to interpret particular discursive formations. The ability to interpret the effects of individual expressions and the focus on social effects of the discourse analysed should be then appreciated as this is often not a case in many theses.

Formally speaking, the research question should be answered earlier then in the conclusion, but this does not affect the overall intelligibility of the thesis.

Minor criteria:

The author uses broad scope of sources, which are well chosen and correspond with the goals. The corpus of the texts analysed is well and systematically documented. Formally, besides slight wordiness in the opening chapters, which was already mentioned, the thesis is well written and fulfils all formal requirements.

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Assessment of plagiarism:
Without any doubts, the work was authored by the student and the antiplagiarism tools do not detect any problematic similarities with other works.

Overall evaluation:

The thesis fulfils all necessary requirements and is well executed.

Suggested grade:

A

Signature: