



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Timothy Yusufu Tongpan

Title: Deterrence in Counter-Terrorism Strategy

Programme/year: International Security Studies, 2023

Author of Evaluation (supervisor): Tomáš Karásek

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	6
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	19
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	26
<i>Total</i>		80	51
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	6
	Style	5	2
	Formal requirements	5	3
<i>Total</i>		20	11
TOTAL		100	62



Evaluation

Major criteria:

The author of the thesis devoted considerable effort and a lot of hard work to make it work as an analytical piece. The success of that endeavour has only been partial. On the one hand, the thesis features a laudable attempt to link a relevant conceptual basis (deterrence) with a clearly delineated empirical case of Nigeria's fight against Boko Haram. The review of different approaches to deterrence features relevant sources and attempts to present the agenda in a systematic manner.

For a more convincing outcome, it would have been necessary to persuasively distil specific conclusions as to how specifically the concept can be applied to the study of counter-terrorism, and what the limits of such an approach are (e.g. in distinguishing between the effects of deterrence and of other components of policies being applied).

While the overall structure is generally sound, a clear argumentation path is often lost in the text of the various chapters. The thesis does contain an abundance of relevant information, including quantitative data, but clear summarization that would persuasively link the conceptual and empirical aspects of the thesis is largely absent.

In short, there is a lot to learn from the thesis about the concept of deterrence, the activities of Boko Haram as well as Nigerian policies to tackle the terrorist threat, but it remains difficult to see where the author's own perspective contributes to the understanding thereof.

Minor criteria:

Despite serious and sincere effort on the part of the author, witnessed throughout the process of writing by the supervisor, the thesis is marred by language problems which hamper both the author's effort to express his thoughts, insights and conclusions, as well as the reader's ability to grasp them.



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Assessment of plagiarism:

The thesis does not exhibit traits of plagiarism.

Overall evaluation:

The thesis is a hard-won result of a determined effort on the part of its author to meet the requirements for presenting a piece of academic writing in an acceptable, passable form. In this regard, he has succeeded and has eventually been able to present a thesis that meets the basic standards at the level of conceptualization and empirical analysis. Though much could still be improved, there are interesting insights into the topic and a demonstration of the ability to approach it from a clearly defined conceptual perspective.

Suggested grade:

D

Signature: