

MASTER'S EXAMINER REPORT

GPS – Geopolitical Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Thesis title:	French Foreign Policy in the Middle East and North Africa, through Neoclassical Realism
Name of Student:	Aymeric Pochat
Referee (<i>incl. titles</i>):	Bohumil Doboš
Report Due Date:	13.5.2023

Comments of the referee on the thesis highlights and shortcomings (following the four numbered aspects of your assessment indicated below).

1) Contribution and argument: The topic of the paper is well selected and relevant. Identifying key factors affecting the French policies in the MENA region is very important as France is one of the key EU members active on the southern flank. The selected theoretical and methodological approach is well suited. Nonetheless, the thesis could have been more explicitly tied to the three studied cases and give them more space. Also, the research questions should have been explicitly answered in the conclusion. Nonetheless, the analysis presents numerous important conclusions based in a systematic overview of large amount of relevant data and presents an interesting contribution.

2) Theoretical and methodological framework: Utilization of neoclassical realist framework is relevant and well suited. The text follows its basic principles very well. The selection of Libya, Lebanon and Iran helps to identify different tools of the French foreign policy and their selections is also well justifiable.

3) Sources and literature: The thesis works with large amount of relevant literature. The citations and bibliography are well prepared. There is no case of plagiarism detected.

4) Manuscript form and structure: The structure of the thesis is very logical.

5) Quality of presentation: The text would do without the quotes outside of text (Marcus Aurelius, etc.). Otherwise, there are no major language issues.

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Contribution (research quality, analysis, and conclusions) (max. 40 points)</i>	32
<i>Theoretical and methodological framework (max. 25 points)</i>	24
<i>Sources and literature (max. 10 points)</i>	10
<i>Manuscript form and structure (max. 15 points)</i>	15
<i>Quality of presentation (grammar, style, coherence) (max. 10 points)</i>	9
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	90
The proposed grade (A-B-C-D-E-F)	A-B

Suggested questions for the defence are:

I (do not) recommend the thesis for final defence.

Referee Signature

Overall grading scheme at FSV UK:

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE	Quality standard
91 – 100	A	= outstanding (high honor)
81 – 90	B	= superior (honor)
71 – 80	C	= good
61 – 70	D	= satisfactory
51 – 60	E	= low pass at a margin of failure
0 – 50	F	= failing. The thesis is not recommended for defence.