



FAKULTA HUMANITNÍCH STUDIÍ Univerzita Karlova

I found it a daunting task to write the opinion of the "consultant" of Nate Sabashvili's thesis, which was supervised by my late colleague Kumsa. The thesis is a revised version of the thesis, from 2022, when the student gave up the defense. The previous version was criticized mainly on formal grounds. The student has removed some of these grounds, in particular adding a legally binding statement of originality.

Compared to the previous version, some chapters, paragraphs and wording have been added.

Overall, the work is a large corpus of text, which is not easy to navigate. The content is illogically inserted after the introduction and is rather brief. The author first presents the theories of globalization, then presents the history of Georgia, then describes how the process of globalization has shaped modern Georgia. The next chapter is devoted to how Russia opposes the globalization process in Georgia. This is followed by a chapter devoted to the dilemma of orienting Georgian politics towards the West or towards Russia, and a conclusion.

1. The basic problem of the work is a very unclear structure. The work is crammed with lists of a large number of facts, it feels like a set of extracts from readings in Georgian history plus a description of current political developments after the collapse of the USSR. If the intention of the thesis was to write an essay on the meaning of globalization for Georgia, then it should have been written in an essayistic manner and not as a retelling of Georgian history complemented with various theories of globalization.
2. The thesis is not divided into a sufficient number of chapters, in many places the text is not structured into paragraphs.
3. The system of citing and referring to sources, which does not use any generally accepted standard, is completely unacceptable. The factual parts of the thesis are full of data for which no source is given. The unorganized form of the thesis makes it almost impossible to distinguish one's own ideas from those taken from it.
4. To formulate as a research hypothesis the claim that the process of globalization is helping Georgia to establish its place in the world strikes me as a truism. It is the same for every nation. Such a hypothesis is tautological, it is valid in itself.
5. As for the research method, I didn't understand where the student was using a quantitative method. I also find it somewhat problematic to talk about a case study. Admittedly, the focus of the study is the impact of globalization on Georgia, but for a case study the study would have to be more compressed and limited in time. It would also require a more precise definition of globalization.

The student originally chose Dr. Kumsu, who died this summer, as her supervisor. So I don't know exactly what her agreement on the nature of the thesis was. She was offered a consultation with me in the summer, which she did not take up.

So I believe that the thesis would need to be fundamentally reworked and reformulated to form a more coherent whole, a single story. The absolute priority, however, is to give the thesis a professional annotation apparatus and a list of references. In present form, I find its defense problematic.

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