



## Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Anastasia Filina

Title: Gibrinaya Voyna in Light of the War in Ukraine: Analysing Changes in Russian Interpretations and the Use of Hybrid Warfare Concept

Programme/year: International Security Studies / 2023

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/second reader): Vojtech Bahensky, PhD

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
<b>Major Criteria</b>			
	Research question, definition of objectives	<b>10</b>	9
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	<b>30</b>	27
	Methodology, analysis, argument	<b>40</b>	35
<i>Total</i>		<b>80</b>	71
<b>Minor Criteria</b>			
	Sources	<b>10</b>	10
	Style	<b>5</b>	5
	Formal requirements	<b>5</b>	5
<i>Total</i>		<b>20</b>	20
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>	91



## Evaluation

### Major criteria:

The thesis poses a question of utmost importance and topicality. Hybrid warfare became one of dominant lenses to understand Russian strategic thought. Studies looking at domestic Russian discussion are in and of themselves underrepresented in the hybrid warfare scholarship. The thesis therefore attempts to fill an important lacuna, despite the challenges to such study presented by the current international situation.

The state-of-the-art part of the thesis is excellently executed and analytical, with range of used sources well beyond what is expected of diploma thesis. The methodological part is brief but adequate for an exploratory and a largely descriptive research design, with the methodological limits acknowledged and reflected.

The findings part is well written, although it could at points more disciplined and structured. Unfortunately, in the post-invasion part of the findings, the titular topic of the thesis received somewhat briefer and shallower treatment than one might hope. But that can be to a degree ascribed to a shortage of available sources, is risk inherent in an ambitious aim of the thesis.

While the thesis arguably achieved its research aim in presenting an interesting and hitherto in English unexplored Russian sources, the thesis could have included more extensive discussion of the findings, especially better utilizing excellent state-of-the-art part of the thesis to do more comparing and contrasting the novel findings in post-invasion period with previous western perceptions of the Russian hybrid warfare thought. The thesis also mentioned Russian awareness of Western perceptions of Russian hybrid warfare thinking – a strand which seems extremely interesting but is unfortunately not elaborated.

### Minor criteria:

The thesis is well written and logically structured with only very sparse typos remaining in the final draft.

### Assessment of plagiarism:

No issues found.

### Overall evaluation:

The thesis is well written and ambitious attempt to contribute to extant scholarship on so-called Russian hybrid warfare. While it may at some places fall short of expectations in the area of analysis of period after 2022 invasion of Ukraine, it is nonetheless a succinct and informative work, drawing on an



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impressive range of secondary and primary sources and bringing some novel pieces of empirical information. As such, it fully conforming to the expectations placed upon a diploma thesis.

**Suggested grade: A**

**Signature:**