

IMSIS Dissertation Feedback & Mark Sheet

Student Matriculation No.	Glasgow 2704155 DCU 21109494 Charles 15534539
Dissertation Title	Cyberattacks: A New Weapon in the Economic Warfare Toolkit A Study of Russian Cyber Attacks on the European Energy Sector in 2022

INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTION GRADING

<p>Word Count Penalty (1-15% over/under = 1gr point; 15-20% over/under = 2 gr points; 20-25% over/under = 3 gr points; more than 25% over/under = 0 fail)</p> <p>Word Count: 25,284 Suggested Penalty: 1gr point</p>		

JOINT GRADING (subject to agreement of the external examiner and approval at Joint Exam Board)

Final Agreed Mark:

Before Penalty: A5 [18]

After Penalty: B1 [17]

DISSERTATION FEEDBACK

Assessment Criteria	Rating
A. Structure and Development of Answer	
This refers to your organisational skills and ability to construct an argument in a coherent and original manner	
• <i>Originality of topic</i>	Excellent
• <i>Coherent set of research questions and/or hypothesis identified</i>	Excellent
• <i>Appropriate methodology and evidence of effective organisation of work</i>	Very Good
• <i>Logically structured argument and flow of ideas reflecting research questions</i>	Very Good
• <i>Application of theory and/or concepts</i>	Very Good
B. Use of Source Material	
This refers to your skills to select and use relevant information and data in a correct manner	
• <i>Evidence of reading and review of published literature</i>	Excellent
• <i>Selection of relevant primary and/or secondary evidence to support argument</i>	Excellent
• <i>Critical analysis and evaluation of evidence</i>	Excellent
• <i>Accuracy of factual data</i>	Excellent
C. Academic Style	
This refers to your ability to write in a formal academic manner	
• <i>Appropriate formal and clear writing style</i>	Very Good
• <i>Accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation</i>	Excellent
• <i>Consistent and accurate referencing (including complete bibliography)</i>	Excellent
• <i>Is the dissertation free from plagiarism?</i>	Yes

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| • Evidence of ethics approval included (if required based on methodology) | Not required |
| • Appropriate word count | Yes |

ADDITIONAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

Reviewer 1

The dissertation analyzes the role of cyberattacks in economic warfare and focuses on Russian attempts to use this coercive strategy. Some passages use a rather verbose language. Forty cyberattacks on energy sectors in Europe were collected, and an argument is made that they are linked to Russia. The conceptual framework connects cyber and economic warfare and additionally reviews alternative conceptual approaches to the issue. The dissertation succeeds in linking cyber and economic warfare by carefully analyzing the collected cases using several dimensions. Overall, conceptually as well as empirically, the cyber-economic warfare link is robust enough and substantiates the overarching argument of the dissertation. That being said, the structure of the argument could be more straightforward.

Reviewer 2

The research examines a topical issue in European security studies. The study has collected quite an interesting amount of data on alleged Russian cyber-attacks targeting the European energy sector. The paper tries to give some possible interpretations of the link between economic warfare and cyber tools. The author shows a comprehensive understanding of the mechanisms of economic warfare. Despite some minor shortcomings, this is overall a well-researched paper that attempts to bring some order to a rather important issue in the field.