



Report on the part of the final state examination Record of the thesis defence

Academic year: 2022/2023

Student's name and surname: Laima Karlsonė
Student's ID: 96486937

Type of the study programme: Master's (post-Bachelor)
Study programme: International Master in Security, Intelligence and Strategic Studies (IMSIS)

Study ID: 722496

Title of the thesis: Follow the Money: Financial Investigations Process in the European Union
Thesis department: Department of Security Studies (23-KBS)
Language of the thesis: English
Language of defence: English
Advisor: Georgios Glouftsiotis
Date of defence: 22.09.2023 **Venue of defence:** Praha
Attempt: regular

Course of defence: The student began by introducing her thesis with respect to her personal experience and motivation. Following that, she presented her research objectives and question and explained what methodology she chose and why, mentioning how she used CDA and how she conducted interviews. Then, the student talked about her research design and overviewed some existing literature and showed which research areas she focused on. The student continued by explaining her empirical work, her scenario modeling and how she sought to answer her research question this way and how the process turned out to be quite hard. Turning them to the purpose of her work, the student explained the valued added of her work and suggested what directions should be taken in future research. Moving on to the reviews. One comment for example noted insufficient literature review, with which the student concurred but justified her choice. Also, there might have been some problems related to the student's fieldwork, especially in terms of theory, but the student suggested that the thesis did contain this, it just was not highlighted enough. Lastly, there was a critique about the CDA not being "critical" enough, to which the student said that she did not think of CDA of an approach for critique per se but rather a multifaceted and comprehensive tool. One committee member suggested that CDA was about the role of language. The student concurred and showed how this was present in her work. Another member asked how the student thought it would be possible to improve cooperation in the area of the student's interest. The student offered her views on the topic.

Result of defence: excellent (A)

Chair of the board: prof. PhDr. Emil Aslan, Ph.D. (present)

Committee members: Georgios Glouftsios (present)

Marcin Kaczmarski, Dr. (present)