



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

Academic year: 2022/2023

Student's name and surname: Shaun Robertson
Student's ID: 74996284

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

Study ID: 722525

Title of the thesis: Obstacles to Security Cooperation: The Problem of Maritime Piracy in South-East Asia
Thesis department: Department of Security Studies (23-KBS)
Language of the thesis: English
Language of defence: English
Advisor: Ing. Bc. Luděk Michálek, Ph.D.
Date of defence: 22.09.2023 **Venue of defence:** Praha
Attempt: regular

Course of defence: The student began by thematizing and contextualizing his topic and outlined his motivation for his interest also in personal terms. Then, he went on to present his research questions, one of which was more policy-oriented and the student provided some explanations for his choice. Moving on to his research strategy, the student spend a few whiles speaking about his methodology and the data sources he worked with, many of which were primary ones, such as primary documents or archival sources. Methodology-wise, the student combined both quantitative and qualitative approaches. Before speaking about his findings, the student clarified some of his concepts. Getting to the findings themselves, the student synthetically provided answers to his research questions that cut across, and were derived from, his diverse methods. Based on the findings, the student offered his conclusions and showed linkages between his findings and wider empirical-theoretical issues. Turning to reviews, one comment suggested that the work needed to include a specific theoretical framework to better integrate his concepts, but the student disputed this and used examples from his thesis to support his claim. The committee asked if there was a contribution that the work made in relation to any wider universe. The student drew a connection between his work and a theoretical lacuna, one that could also be policy-relevant. One committee member wanted to know more about some of the policy recommendations the student could offer to the problems he identified in his work. The student answered to the satisfaction of the committee member. Another member lauded the thesis and wanted to know if the student had drawn on the literature on conflict and development as that could be beneficial. The student answered negatively but agreed that his work would benefit from doing so and hinted that he was planning to delve

into the area in his future research.

Result of defence:	excellent (A)	
Chair of the board:	prof. PhDr. Emil Aslan, Ph.D. (present)
Committee members:	Georgios Glouftsios (present)
	Marcin Kaczmarek, Dr. (present)