



FACULTY  
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Charles University

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

Academic year: 2022/2023

**Student's name and surname:** Eilis Grogan  
**Student's ID:** 83044238

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

**Study ID:** 722487

**Title of the thesis:** The Motivations of Foreign Fighters: The Case of the Chechen Diaspora in Ukraine  
**Thesis department:** Department of Security Studies (23-KBS)  
**Language of the thesis:** English  
**Language of defence:** English  
**Advisor:** prof. PhDr. Emil Aslan, Ph.D.  
**Date of defence:** 21.09.2023    **Venue of defence:** Praha  
**Attempt:** regular

**Course of defence:** The student wrote on the motivation of Chechen fighters in the War in Ukraine. Methodologically, the student relied on secondary sources only, highlighting possible limitations. She reviewed the kinds of sources she used. Then she reiterated her research question and specified three subquestions that helped guide her research, showing how they were rooted in existing literature on the issue. Following that, she specified factors relevant for her study and went on to explain how she went about her analysis, considering existing theoretical and empirical sources and relating them to her focus. Finally, the student presented her findings and conclusions. 1) Lack of evidence and empirical material - the student recognized this, but also stressed that she had to make do with the limited amount she had, for that she even suggested she actually provided timely and important findings; 2) formal problems - the student acknowledged these and said that it would have benefitted the work. One committee member (supervisor) provided detailed feedback, around: lack of empirical data, but also spent some time explaining how the work would have greatly benefitted if it had engaged more deeply with existing literature and actually sought to provide a theoretical argument, moving the work away from being purely empirically descriptive. Another committee member asked the student to summarize the contribution of her research to wider research - the student emphasized clarifications related to higher-order theoretical questions. The committee thanked the student and announced her successful completion of the defense.

**Result of defence:** very good (D)

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

**Committee members:** Marcin Kaczmarski, Dr. (present) .....

Sarah Leonard (present) .....