



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

Academic year: 2022/2023

Student's name and surname: Luca Guidoboni
Student's ID: 77072742

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

Study ID: 722488

Title of the thesis: Understanding Violence and Conflict: Greenland as a Theory-Building Case Study
Thesis department: Department of Security Studies (23-KBS)
Language of the thesis: English
Language of defence: English
Advisor: prof. PhDr. RNDr. Nikola Hynek, Ph.D., M.A.
Date of defence: 21.09.2023 **Venue of defence:** Praha
Attempt: regular

Course of defence: The student wrote a thesis about the reconceptualization of violence and conflict using the case of Greenland. He began his defense by explaining the historical context of his research question, focusing on the position of Greenland in modern history, its socio-cultural specifics, esp. in relation to the country's relationship with Denmark. Thus, the student wanted to research what the linkages could be between the specifics and the history of Danish colonization. Following that, the student provided an overview of existing literature, or rather the lack of it, showing how the focus on Greenland has centered on some things at the expense of others. So, the student chose his subject to better understand the empirics but also for a more general theoretical purposes. He chose a research strategy of dialogical theory building, couched in the philosophical tradition of critical realism. At this point, the student read at length his research question and explained how his findings answered the query as well as how they translated to a more general, theoretical perspective, to the degree of suggesting arguments at the level of causes of conflict. Turning to feedback: 1) very positive, a very timely and important thesis, focusing on an issue of great importance but one that has been overlooked; 2) more critical - related to determinist claims, which the student made even if he had not intended to go as far - and suggesting better theoretical options. The student agreed with the critique. One committee member asked the student to clarify the empirical focus, the student explained how he adopted a wide understanding of violence; the member suggested that the empirical focus of the thesis was probably highly determinative of the theoretical findings. The student agreed again and explained his approach with recourse to lacunas in the existing literature and a wider sociological literature. The committee also

asked if the student spoke Danish, the student said that no and that it was likely one of the limitations of his work. The committee thanked the student and announced her successful completion of the defense.

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| Result of defence: | excellent (A) | |
| Chair of the board: | prof. PhDr. Emil Aslan, Ph.D. (present) | |
| Committee members: | Marcin Kaczmarski, Dr. (present) | |
| | Sarah Leonard (present) | |