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

Academic year: 2022/2023

Student's name and surname:	Ellena Walker
Student's ID:	80173014
Type of the study programme:	Master's (post-Bachelor)
Study programme:	International Master in Security, Intelligence and Strategic Studies (IMSISS)
Study ID:	722550
Title of the thesis:	Security a la AMLO: An Evaluation of the Militarisation of Mexican Law Enforcement
Thesis department:	Department of Security Studies (23-KBS)
Language of the thesis:	English
Language of defence:	English
Advisor:	Mgr. Kateřina Březinová, Ph.D.
Date of defence:	22.09.2023 **Venue of defence:** Praha
Attempt:	regular

Course of defence:

The student presented the theme of her thesis and explained the empirical background behind it, including controversies related to the issue. Based on that, the student explained the motivation and rationale for her work, linking it to a novelty of the topic, and presented her research objectives. Then, the student talked about conceptualization and methodology, outlining what factors she considered and showcasing the overall research strategy. She also provided more detail on how she would operationalize the approach, including issues related to measurement. Following that, the student presented her key findings and suggested that her work was very much indicative, explorative and even if her findings might seem trivial, it was the first work to explore the issue. She discussed her conclusions, interpretations and the implications of her research. She reiterated the necessary tentativeness of her work. Next, the reviews. The main critique was about a disconnect between how the final product turned out to be and what it was shaping up to be during the writing part. The student explained how she struggled with the writing process. Also, there was a comment about the work being incomplete, esp. related to the work missing a bibliography. The student countered that she always had one, it just was not well structured. Finally, lack of specificity in the data / methodology section. The student put this down to stylistic errors on her part. Then, one committee member asked the student to expand upon a specific empirical finding. The student did and the committee was happy with the answer.

Result of defence: excellent (B)

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

Committee members: Georgios Glouftsios (present) ....

Marcin Kaczmarski, Dr. (present) ....