

UNIVERZITA KARLOVA V PRAZE
Fakulta sociálních věd
Institut mezinárodních studií

PROTOKOL O HODNOCENÍ BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE
(Posudek oponenta)

Práci předložil(a) student(ka): Jan Roček

Název práce: **Greek Military Junta in Family Reminiscences**

Oponoval (u externích oponentů uveďte též adresu a funkci v rámci instituce): doc. Maria-Alina Asavei, D.Phil

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1. OBSAH A CÍL PRÁCE (stručná informace o práci, formulace cíle):

The objective of the thesis is clearly formulated, namely, to explore the dark period of the Greek military junta (1967-1974) through the lenses of then-children's memories. The aim is complex enough and the choice of interviewing Athens citizens is appropriate. The structure of the thesis is generally convincing and intends to follow the analytical development of the main argument. Particularly revealing - in terms of structuring the thesis - are the last three sections that include the analysis of three concepts which pervaded each interviewees' memories (namely the symbolism in education, fear of communists, and giving the junta a meaning).

2. VĚCNÉ ZPRACOVÁNÍ (náročnost, tvůrčí přístup, argumentace, logická struktura, teoretické a metodologické ukotvení, práce s prameny a literaturou, vhodnost příloh apod.):

The thesis focuses on the analysis of six interviews conducted with former Greek children from Athens considering how and to what ends they recall the era of the military junta from 1967 to 1974. The BA thesis displays a certain degree of intricacy, but the theoretical and

methodological framing is not fully convincing. The argument is not fully unpacked as the analysis of the interviews is not nuanced enough and it mostly remain at the descriptive level. The choice of interviewing former children is appropriate and fit to the purpose, but the thesis does not elaborate enough on the methodological choice. The literature review on modern Greek history is informative and the thesis is well anchored in this respect. The appendices (the interviews' transcriptions) are particularly informative and a relevant addition to the thesis.

3. FORMÁLNÍ A JAZYKOVÉ ZPRACOVÁNÍ (jazykový projev, správnost citace a odkazů na literaturu, grafická úprava, formální náležitosti práce apod.):

The citation style is generally consistent. The phrasing is engaging. Overall, a great job regarding the formal aspects and language.

4. KONTROLA ORIGINALITY TEXTU

Prohlašuji, že jsem se seznámil/a s výsledkem kontroly originality textu závěrečné práce v systému:

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5. STRUČNÝ KOMENTÁŘ HODNOTITELE (celkový dojem z bakalářské práce, silné a slabé stránky, originalita myšlenek, naplnění cíle apod.):

The chosen topic is thought-provoking, and the approach of dealing with the data display a moderate degree of creativity.

Strengths: Both the topic of the thesis and the approach are original and meant to fill a gap in the modern history of Greece. The thesis is written in a very comprehensible and clear manner, making use of sufficiently sophisticated academic vocabulary. At the same time, the choice of the interviewees is appropriate and up to the task. Especially positive is that the researcher has chosen to interview both men and women (as the gendered lens memory is significant, even if this is not always straightforward in the analysis of the interviews).

As far as the **weaknesses** are concerned, the BA thesis would have benefited from a more solid theoretical framing that would have straighten the main argument. At this point there is not sufficient and convincing engagement with the theories and concepts of memory studies to fully support the analysis of the interviews and the backing-up of the argument. To mention only an example, the researcher posits many times that the study focuses on both direct, and on what he calls “*indirect*” memories of the military junta. Yet, there is no referring to consecrated memory studies concepts that frame vicarious remembering or memories of a difficult past that have not been experienced first-hand. Perhaps Marianne Hirsh’s considerations on “post-memory” (*affiliative* versus *familial* memory) would have worked better and more nuanced than what the researcher calls “indirect memories,” especially because the researcher states that “These children reminisce about the era mostly through their family memory” (page 14). Moreover, the very title of the thesis mentions “family reminiscences.” In addition, the entire thesis is poorly framed theoretically. There are a few vaguely mentioning to memory studies’ theories (e.g., “collective memory”, “place of memory”), yet this theory is not engaged thoroughly with, and it is not always specific enough (nor fully in line with the chosen topic). There is no convincing section on methodology where the reader can take note and understand how methodology will be employed and to what ends.

6. OTÁZKY A PŘIPOMÍNKY DOPORUČENÉ K BLIŽŠÍMU VYSVĚTLENÍ PŘI OBHAJOBĚ (jedna až tři):

1. If and how the memories of the military junta differ in the narratives of women compared with the recollections of men?
2. Please elaborate on what does it mean that the thesis “*slightly* confirms” (p.41 Conclusion) the already known narrative that the junta had negative direct and indirect impacts on how Greeks recall the past. What do you mean by “*slightly*”? And how this “slight” confirmation extends the knowledge about the dark past of the military junta beyond the already known narrative according to which the military junta elicits negative memories?

7. DOPORUČENÍ / NEDOPORUČENÍ K OBHAJOBĚ A NAVRHOVANÁ ZNÁMKA (A-F): **B**

Datum: 15 May 2024

Podpis:

Pozn.: Hodnocení pište k jednotlivým bodům, pokud nepíšete v textovém editoru, použijte při nedostatku místa zadní stranu nebo příložený list. V hodnocení práce se pokuste oddělit ty její nedostatky, které jsou, podle vašeho mínění, obhajobou neodstranitelné (např. chybí kritické zhodnocení pramenů a literatury), od těch věcí, které student může dobrou obhajobou napravit; poměr těchto dvou položek berte prosím v úvahu při stanovení konečné známky.