



## Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Alexander Robak

Title: Beyond Borders: Assessing Multilateral Cooperation Frameworks in Southeast Asia's War on Drugs

Programme/year: International Security Studies, 2024

Author of Evaluation (opponent): Tomáš Karásek

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
<b>Major Criteria</b>			
	Research question, definition of objectives	<b>10</b>	8
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	<b>30</b>	25
	Methodology, analysis, argument	<b>40</b>	36
<i>Total</i>		<b>80</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Minor Criteria</b>			
	Sources	<b>10</b>	10
	Style	<b>5</b>	4
	Formal requirements	<b>5</b>	5
<i>Total</i>		<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>88</b>



## Evaluation

### Major criteria:

Combining the theoretical instruments for studying multilateralism with an empirical focus on anti-drug policies in the Southeast Asia is a highly interesting and promising move. The thesis that follows the topic is superbly researched, rests on an abundant selection of relevant sources, presents its argumentation in a well-structured manner and presents loads of detailed insight into its subject matter. It is a great piece of empirically informed analysis.

That being said, the theoretical promise presented in the initial robust outline of the conceptualization of multilateralism does not eventually materialize. While the categorization of the regional actors into three groups (proactive collaborators, conditional participants, peripheral associates) is a valid and illustrative tool, a broader theoretical assessment of the promises of (and challenges to) multilateralism is missing. Neither do the vignettes of the region's countries, while informative, do lead to a systematized assessment and dissection of the factors that hinder multilateral collaboration.

### Minor criteria:

The thesis rests on an impressive array of relevant sources, and the author's work with them throughout the text is exemplary. The text is written in an appropriate language, and more than meets the expected formal requirements.

### Assessment of plagiarism:

The thesis does not exhibit traits of plagiarism.



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**Overall evaluation:**

The thesis is meticulously researched, nicely crafted, ably structured and highly informative. The only drawback is the missing link between the initially presented theoretical framework and the actual analysis.

**Suggested grade:**

**B**

**Signature:**