Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Alison Gryzlo

Title: Chinese Involvement in Latin America Post-2009: A Study of the Relevance of Defensive, Offensive, and Postclassical Realism

Programme/year: MAIN/2024

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/<u>second reader</u>): Jaromír Soukup

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	**10**	10
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	**30**	28
	Methodology, analysis, argument	**40**	37
Total		*80*	75
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	**10**	9
	Style	**5**	5
	Formal requirements	**5**	5
Total		*20*	19
TOTAL		*100*	94

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Evaluation

Major criteria:

The thesis asks three clear questions, each linked to a different theory: defensive realism, offensive realism, and postclassical realism. These questions are important for understanding China's actions in Latin America. They are well-stated and provide a solid base for the thesis. The thesis clearly explains its goals, which are to see which theory best explains China's actions in Latin America. It aims to find out if China's involvement is mainly about security or power. These objectives are well-defined and relevant. The thesis uses qualitative congruence analysis to test the hypotheses. This method is suitable for the goals of the study and allows a detailed comparison of data with the theories. The methodology is well-explained and appropriate. The analysis is thorough and applies the theories to real data about China's actions in Latin America. The thesis looks at economic, political, and military aspects. The analysis is well-organized and provides clear insights into which theory best explains China's actions. This makes the argument stronger and supports the conclusions.

Minor criteria:

The thesis uses a wide range of sources, including academic papers, databases, news articles, and official documents. This variety makes the research reliable and deep. The sources are well-cited and relevant to the study's goals. The writing is clear, formal, and suitable for academic work. The thesis is well-organized, with a logical flow between sections.

Assessment of plagiarism:

I have found no evidence of plagiarism. The work appears to be original and properly cited throughout.

Overall evaluation:

This thesis is well-structured and thoroughly examines China's actions in Latin America using three different theories. The research questions are clear, the objectives are well-defined, and the theoretical framework is strong. The methodology is appropriate, and the analysis is detailed and convincing. The use of sources, writing style, and adherence to formal requirements are all of high quality.

Overall, the thesis shows a strong understanding of the subject and adds valuable insights to the field of international relations and geopolitics. It is a

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commendable piece of academic work that effectively addresses an important topic.

Suggested grade: A

Signature: