



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Mariia Povna

Title: India and China in the world economic governance: the case of the WTO

Programme/year: International Relations, 2023/2024

Author of Evaluation (supervisor): Jan Karlas

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	9
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	25
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	30
<i>Total</i>		80	64
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	8
	Style	5	5
	Formal requirements	5	5
<i>Total</i>		20	18
TOTAL		100	82



Evaluation

Major criteria:

This thesis seeks to explain the preferences of China and India in the WTO's Doha Round.

The author provides a good contextualization of the topic by outlining the context of WTO negotiations in the 21st century, the power shift to the emerging powers, as well as the economic and trade policies of both countries.

In theoretical terms, the two approaches (Putnam's two-level games and Nel's perspective) are well chosen because they offer two relevant but different explanations of the issue. It could be just debated to what extent they represent the suggested general theoretical approaches, in particular in the case of Nel's perspective – this perspective has some affinity with constructivism, but also with realism.

The empirical analysis is very extensive. Regarding the description of the preferences of the two selected states, the thesis generally manages to provide their sufficient description.

A weaker part of the thesis is the application of the two theoretical explanations and, more specifically, the linking of the explanatory factors connected with these two explanations with the relevant empirical observations/data. The selected explanations require to focus on the empirical analysis of the preferences of domestic economic and social actors or domestic economic sectors (two-level games) and the concerns of India and China with redistribution and recognition. To some extent, the thesis does this, but it could be done in a more direct and deeper manner. Likewise, the analysis of the links (or their absence) between the explanatory factors and the preferences of both countries in the WTO could be made in a more explicit and focused manner. In general, the text is very long and not all the parts are directly concerned with the very subject of the thesis – the alternative way was to streamline the current text and to keep only most relevant parts of it.



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Minor criteria:

Assessment of plagiarism:

The Turnitin check indicates a 25% of overall similarity, but according to my reading of these results the thesis does not commit plagiarism.

Overall evaluation:

The thesis provides a good contextualization of the topic and is based on a work with relevant theoretical approaches. The empirical analysis is very extensive and generally manages to provide a good description of the preferences of China and India in the Doha Round. However, the analysis of the connections of the explanatory factors with these preferences could be carried out in a more direct and deeper manner.

Suggested grade:

B

Signature: