



FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

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

Academic year: 2023/2024

Student's name and surname: James David O'Blenis
Student's ID: 84463662

Type of the study programme: Master's (post-Bachelor)
Study programme: International Relations
Study ID: 712975

Title of the thesis: A Tale of Two Migrants: An Analysis of the Discursive Construction of Syrian and Ukrainian Migrants in the Czech Politics
Thesis department: Department of International Relations (23-KMV)
Language of the thesis: English
Language of defence: English
Advisor: Mgr. Jakub Tesař, Ph.D.
Reviewer(s): Mgr. Kristián Földes
Date of defence: 13.06.2024 **Venue of defence:** Praha
Attempt: regular

Course of the examination: Student starts the defence by describing the main sections of the thesis. Commission then reads out the reviews. Merits and issues are discussed, the later include data selection, a weaker qualitative section, definition of the research question, linkage of the theory and the questions, and transparency on the use of AI. Following, the student reacted to the comments. Syrians being disproportionately characterized as irregular migrants were justified by the student. Relationship between discourse change and other aspects (goal/questions) of the thesis has been clarified. Verification process of coding is also mentioned by the student upon request of the Commission. Finally, Commission asked a question about the change of Czech government and its impact on discursive construction of migrants. Student answered. The question of racism is neglected in the thesis, the students give an argument why.

Commission gave final grade of A.

Result of defence: excellent (A)

Chair of the board: Karlas Jan, doc. PhDr., Ph.D., M.A. (present)

Committee members: Martinková Viera, Mgr., Ph.D. (present)

Tesař Jakub, Mgr., Ph.D. (present)