

BACHELOR'S THESIS EXAMINER REPORT
PPE – Bachelor's in Politics, Philosophy and Economics
Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Thesis title:	The Impact of Russia's War of Aggression against Ukraine on Nuclear Energy Policy in Central and Eastern European Countries
Student's name:	Kryštof John Donovan
Referee's name:	Martin Riegl

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Contribution and argument (quality of research and analysis, originality)	50	35
	Research question (definition of objectives, plausibility of hypotheses)	15	13
	Theoretical framework (methods relevant to the research question)	15	8
Total		80	56
Minor Criteria			
	Sources, literature	10	6
	Presentation (language, style, cohesion)	5	5
	Manuscript form (structure, logical coherence, layout, tables, figures)	5	4
Total		20	15
TOTAL		100	71

Plagiarism-check (URKUND) match score:

No plagiarism issue was detected.

Reviewer's commentary according to the above criteria (min. 1800 characters including spaces when recommending a passing grade, min. 2500 characters including spaces when recommending a failing grade):

The submitted thesis covers highly relevant aspects of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, that is the energy security of countries located in geographic proximity with Russia. CEE countries are naturally more dependent on the import of Russian commodities such as crude oil or natural gas and thus exposed to Moscow's geopolitical coercion. The topic has gained more relevance as Moscow does not shy away from using energy exports as a geopolitical weapon against the EU or NATO countries. For this reason, Kryštof has decided to analyze the impacts of Russia's increasingly aggressive posture in the region on the Nuclear Energy policy of Central and Eastern European Countries. Not only policy

development in the CEE region covered in the paper but also Finland and Sweden are included in the analysis. This is logically a diverse group of countries when it comes to their energy mix so taking a deeper look at how a dramatic deterioration of the security environment influenced their energy policy is worth no doubt relevant. Having said that, the paper is a multiple-case study aiming to answer three research questions closely associated with security environment development. For that reason it makes sense to establish realist theory as the framework of the paper, but when it comes to methodology a more detailed explanation of how the analysis is later conducted would allow the reader to better understand the analysis. E.g. the chapter on methodology does not provide any timeframe in which policy decisions are analyzed, at what level (expert level, political level), whether strategic documents (e.g. NSS, NDS etc) are analyzed, and so on. Despite that, the thesis meets all formal criteria and I recommend it for defence.

Proposed grade (C):

Suggested questions for the defence are: None

I (do not) recommend the thesis for final defence.

Referee Signature

Overall grading scheme at FSV UK:

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE	Quality standard
91 – 100	A	= outstanding (high honor)
81 – 90	B	= superior (honor)
71 – 80	C	= good
61 – 70	D	= satisfactory
51 – 60	E	= low pass at a margin of failure
0 – 50	F	= failing. The thesis is not recommended for defence.