

MASTER'S EXAMINER REPORT

GPS – Geopolitical Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Thesis title:	Chinese securitization of the main water sources in South and Southeast Asia: Brahmaputra and Mekong comparison
Name of Student:	Lía Rodríguez Álvarez
Referee (<i>incl. titles</i>):	PhDr. Mgr. Jakub Landovský Ph.D.
Report Due Date:	

Comments of the referee on the thesis highlights and shortcomings (following the four numbered aspects of your assessment indicated below).

1) Contribution and argument: Solid contribution to the water debate in two of the most prominent transboundary river basins of the world today. Excellent and very thorough argumentation covering hydropower, control over water resources and power configuration within the watersheds mostly focusing on the upstream hegemon - China.

2) Theoretical and methodological framework: Thesis is mostly based on realist views and qualitative argumentation, but it brings a lot of data, almost exclusively on hydropower aspects of transboundary water sharing. Inclusion of irrigation, flood control would add up to the presented arguments.

3) Sources and literature: Based on an extensive knowledge of theoretical “canonic” literature, including Aaron Wolf, Itay Fischhendler or Agnew. Case studies include authors dealing specifically with the two river basins like Chellaney or Loughlin. some Chinese authors are also present which a welcomed addition to the list of used sources.

4) Manuscript form and structure: Very good form and structure, I was trying to find professor Wolf’s in the list of used literature as he was mentioned in the text, but could not find him.

5) Quality of presentation: Presentation is functional table and maps are included and the tables are compiled by the author.

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Contribution (research quality, analysis, and conclusions) (max. 40 points)</i>	37
<i>Theoretical and methodological framework (max. 25 points)</i>	23
<i>Sources and literature (max. 10 points)</i>	10
<i>Manuscript form and structure (max. 15 points)</i>	13

<i>Quality of presentation (grammar, style, coherence)</i> <i>points)</i>	<i>(max. 10</i>	9
TOTAL POINTS <i>points)</i>	<i>(max. 100</i>	92
The proposed grade (A-B-C-D-E-F)		A

Suggested questions for the defence are: Is bilateralization of water relations as way to maximize role of regional hegemony exclusive to China? How would you describe relations between India on one side and Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal on the other side?



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.