



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

Academic year: 2023/2024

**Student's name and surname:** Mathieu Mouton  
**Student's ID:** 44112223

**Type of the study programme:** Master's (post-Bachelor)  
**Study programme:** Geopolitical Studies  
**Study ID:** 757339

**Title of the thesis:** France's new strategy in the Francophone countries of Sub-Saharan Africa as a reaction to the growing anti-French sentiment.  
**Thesis department:** Department of Political Science (23-KP)  
**Language of the thesis:** English  
**Language of defence:** English  
**Advisor:** doc. Martin Riegl, Ph.D.  
**Reviewer(s):** Mgr. Bohumil Doboš, Ph.D.  
**Date of defence:** 19.09.2024    **Venue of defence:** Praha  
**Attempt:** regular

**Course of the examination:** [in person] The student began his thesis defence by explaining his motivations and the relevance of the study given the recent events where Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso expelled the French presence in their territories. The student argues this is relevant since Russia and the Wagner group have benefited from the situation, increasing their influence in the region. At the same time, he explained the reasoning behind choosing the Central African Republic, Madagascar, and Tchad as possible scenarios where the balance in Russian influence could experience some similar outcomes to those in the first three examples.

CU Committee: Dr Landovský asks about the counterstrategy France should follow given the decreasing influence.  
The student differentiates what the courses of action should be since the Central African Republic context is sharply different from that of Tchad, for example.  
No further questions from the committee.

**Result of defence:** very good (C)

**Chair of the board:** Romancov Michael, PhDr., Ph.D. (present) .....

**Committee members:** Krausz Hladká Malvína, PhDr., Ph.D. (present) .....

Landovský Jakub, PhDr. Mgr. et Mgr., Ph.D. (present) .....

Tang Hsin-wei, prof. (present) .....