

MASTER'S EXAMINER REPORT

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

Thesis title:	Subversion as the Modus Operandi China's integration of influence operations into the Belt and Road Initiative as a mode of disrupting geopolitical powers in Vietnam and Pakistan
Name of Student:	Daniel Olah
Referee (incl. titles):	Michael Romancov, Ph.D.
Report Due Date:	10. 9. 2024

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

1) Contribution and argument:

The author submits a very original and highly up-to-date diploma thesis for defense. At first glance, the issue of subversion does not seem like a geopolitical topic, but I believe that the author succeeded very well in showing that it makes sense to focus geopolitical analysis in this direction as well. At the same time, I very much appreciate that and how the author took inspiration from the past, from the approach that was once applied by the Soviet Union and related it to the present and Chinese practices.

2) Theoretical and methodological framework:

The entire 1st chapter of the thesis is devoted to the theoretical foundation. The author convincingly argues why he chose several theoretical approaches, which are then properly explained and applied to the researched topic.

3) Sources and literature:

The diploma thesis is based on enough academic and other information sources. Sources are carefully and properly cited throughout the entire text of the thesis.

4) Manuscript form and structure:

The diploma thesis has a logical structure, thanks to which the reader orients himself in the text very clearly. The chapters follow each other smoothly. The work is written in a very cultured and readable language.

5) Quality of presentation

The text of the diploma thesis meets all academic and formal requirements that are standardly imposed on texts of this type.

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Contribution (research quality, analysis, and conclusions) (max. 40 points)</i>	38
<i>Theoretical and methodological framework (max. 25 points)</i>	25
<i>Sources and literature (max. 10 points)</i>	10
<i>Manuscript form and structure (max. 15 points)</i>	15
<i>Quality of presentation (grammar, style, coherence) (max. 10 points)</i>	10
TOTAL POINTS	98
The proposed grade (A-B-C-D-E-F)	A

Suggested questions for the defence are:

I 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.