



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Adam Voldřich

Title: Automating Compliance: The role of Machine Learning in International Prohibition Regimes

Programme/year: SS 2024

Author of Evaluation (supervisor/external assessor):

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	9
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	19
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	28
<i>Total</i>		80	56
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	9
	Style	5	2
	Formal requirements	5	2
<i>Total</i>		20	13
TOTAL		100	69



Evaluation

Major criteria:

The present thesis focuses on the potential use of machine learning models in strengthening global prohibitionist regimes. The topic is very interesting and original, however, the actual execution of the thesis unfortunately falls short.

Quite incomprehensibly, the thesis begins with a methodology chapter that even precedes the literature review. In terms of content, the methodology chapter is very shallow. The theoretical framework is illogically divided between the literature review and the theoretical chapter. The analytically supporting theoretical ideas are based on constructivist literature dealing with humanitarian disarmament and tabooization/stigmatization. The fundamental problem is that the theoretical framework remains completely divorced from the empirical analysis, which shows quite convincingly that machine learning models can substantially support surveillance activities.

The chapter dealing with machine learning in general and ML deployment is the best part of the thesis.

Minor criteria:

Based on the anti-plagiarism software checks, it is formally confirmed that the submitted thesis is original and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, does not, in an ethically unacceptable manner, draw from the works of other authors.

There are unmissable stylistic and minor language issues.

Overall evaluation:

Overall, this is a missed opportunity. The author chose a very interesting topic, but failed to come up with a research design that would have allowed him to analyse the topic honestly. I cannot help but feel that the thesis was



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written hastily under time pressure.

Suggested grade: C/D

Signature: