



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Alexander Neuhalfen

Title: Dealing with Uncertainty in Security Analysis Products: How different Approaches to communicating Uncertainty affect the Perception of Intelligence Reports and Policy Memos

Programme/year: MISS 2024

Author of Evaluation (second reader): Tomáš Kučera

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	10
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	28
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	40
<i>Total</i>		80	78
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	10
	Style	5	4
	Formal requirements	5	5
<i>Total</i>		20	19
TOTAL		100	97



Evaluation

Major criteria:

This thesis addresses an important and underexplored topic within international security studies by examining how different approaches to communicating uncertainty affect the perception of intelligence reports and policy memos. Although the topic primarily draws from cognitive psychology, the author convincingly demonstrates its place in international security studies and its relevance to security practice, particularly in the context of decision-making under uncertainty.

The research is underpinned by a sophisticated and robust design, including a well-executed experiment that effectively tests the hypotheses. The outcomes are both relevant and insightful. The author also successfully links these analytical outcomes to the existing literature, further enriching the discussion.

Importantly, the research findings allow the author to make practical policy recommendations.

Minor criteria: OK

Assessment of plagiarism: OK

Overall evaluation:

This thesis is a highly proficient piece of research, both in design and execution, that makes a valuable contribution to a niche yet practically significant area of international security studies.

Suggested grade: A

Signature: