



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: Madlene Karimi

Title: Women's role in Conflict Resolution: A comparative study of women's participation in conflict resolution in Kenya and Northern Uganda

Programme/year: MISS/ 2024

Author of Evaluation (supervisor): Anna Kotvalová

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	8
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	15
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	25
<i>Total</i>		80	48
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	9
	Style	5	3
	Formal requirements	5	5
<i>Total</i>		20	17
TOTAL		100	65



Evaluation

Major criteria:

Madlene has decided to explore the role of women in conflict resolution, which is highly relevant and crucial topic in IR and security studies. In her introduction, Madlene stresses out the stereotypes and blind spaces concerning women and other marginalized groups in conflict and conflict resolution the way how traditional IR sees it. In the introduction, she also outlines sufficiently two research questions which fit well into the general aim of the thesis.

The literature review does provide us with an overview of relevant academic literature dealing with the topic of conflict resolution and women in conflict resolution, but it fails to put the research in a broader feminist debate in IR and security studies and the debate around ontological aspects of gendered identity in a conflict/war/military.

In the case/context chapter, Madlene demonstrates, that she understands the selected cases of Burundi and Northern Uganda well and provides us with sufficient overview of the historical context.

The theoretical and conceptual chapter is quite incoherent because it jumps from topic to topic and does not structure the theoretical argument sufficiently. In her theoretical chapter, Madlene worked with number of theoretical approaches regarding conflict but this chapters lacks a deeper understanding of the theoretical feminist and post-colonial perspective and the depth it provides us for understanding gendered identity and experience in a conflict. The theoretical sub-chapters are also structured in a quite incoherent and messy fashion.

In her methodological section, Madlene outlines her research design which is also quite messy. Madlene argues that for her analysis, she is using content analysis, and she outlines her data selection although both of these choices are not well explained and argued for. The methodological chapter also includes “conclusion” which is not necessary (as we discussed during our meetings) and it disrupts the flow of the text. Also, other chapters either ends with “conclusion” or starts with “introduction” which is not necessary.

Unfortunately, the analytical section is quite brief, descriptive and does not sufficiently apply the selected method (content analysis). The discussion of the results also lacks a broader dive into the context of the topic and a connection back to the theory.

In her conclusion, Madlene generally summarizes her findings.



Minor criteria:

In terms of minor criteria, I do have several notes.

The text and individual chapters are not well structured, they appear quite messy and therefore, the text and its coherence lacks.

From the stylistic perspective, the text lacks, sometimes sentences are not finished, there is a number of grammar and stylistic mistakes.

Assessment of plagiarism:

Turnitin did not discover any problems.

Overall evaluation:

Madlene explored very important and relevant topic in nowadays IR and security studies and outlined sufficiently relevant research questions and aim for the thesis. Unfortunately, along the way, the research design was not fulfilled. As I already argued, the thesis lacks in both theoretical and analytical chapters and suffers from surface level comparison of both cases.

On the other hand, as Madlene's supervisor I am aware that she dedicated enough time and effort to the thesis and the text does fulfill basic requirements for diploma thesis.

Suggested grade:

D

Signature: