



## Record of the dissertation thesis defence

Academic year: 2024/2025

<b>Student's name and surname:</b>	Mgr. Zachary Colin Lavengood
<b>Student's ID:</b>	46827707
<b>Type of the study programme:</b>	doctoral
<b>Study programme:</b>	Area Studies
<b>Study ID:</b>	664278
<b>Title of the thesis:</b>	Catalysts of Conflict: Theorizing the Study of Geopolitical Flashpoints
<b>Thesis department:</b>	Department of North American Studies (23-KAS)
<b>Language of the thesis:</b>	English
<b>Language of defence:</b>	English
<b>Supervisor:</b>	PhDr. Jan Hornát, Ph.D.
<b>Reviewer(s):</b>	Andreas Østhagen, Ph.D. prof. Mason Richey
<b>Date of defence:</b>	20.12.2024
<b>Attempt:</b>	<b>Venue of defence:</b> Praha regular
<b>Examination proceedings:</b>	<p>Chair of the board welcomed the defendant, explained the defence process and asked him to introduce his dissertation. The defendant explained the topic of his doctoral thesis, the main concepts and methodology. The thesis is focused on the concept of "flashpoints" in international relations and geopolitics, especially connected with the conflict resolution and deescalation.</p> <p>Prof. Kubát asked the defendant to answer to the comments and questions in the reviews. First of all Andreas Osthagen's review which was more critical. The defendant agrees with many of his points. Prof. Weiss asks about the concepts of flashpoint. What does his definition brings us more? Zachary says that his dissertation creates a grounded and in-depth understanding and definition of the concept of a "flashpoint" so it can be practically used in further literature. His definition allows also a more constructive way of analysis.</p> <p>Other members of the board ask additional questions regarding the concept of flashpoints and methodology of the dissertation. They also asked about the Artics and if that can be approached as one region and, consequently, if it is possible to apply the concept of flashpoint here. Prof. Weiss asked about the theoretical framework and concepts used, especially the constructivist and realist theoretical approaches.</p>

<b>Result of defence:</b>	pass (P)	
<b>Chair of the committee:</b>	Kubát Michal, prof. PhDr., Ph.D. (present)	.....
<b>Committee members:</b>	Weiss Tomáš, prof. Mgr., M.A., Ph.D. (present)	.....
	Horák Slavomír, doc. PhDr., Ph.D. (present)	.....
	Hornát Jan, PhDr., Ph.D. (present)	.....
	Just Petr, PhDr., Ph.D. (present)	.....