

KARLOVA UNIVERZITA V PRAZE
Fakulta sociálních věd
Institut politologických studií

Master's Thesis Assessment

AUTHOR: Viktoria Potapkina

TITLE OF THE THESIS: Post-conflict governments in Lebanon: the factors of success and failure

ASSESSED BY: Lucie Hindlsova

ASSESSMENT TYPE: Supervisor's assessment

1. ASSESSMENT OF THE THESIS CONTENT

ASSESSMENT CATEGORIES	MARK
Relevancy of the topic in relation to the current scientific knowledge	1
Originality of the thesis, contribution to the science subject field	2
Integrity and scale of sources and literature relevant to the subject study	1
Ability for critical appraisal of the sources	1
Standards of working with sources	1
Methodology and its relevancy to the subject study and thesis goals	1
Logic of the thesis structure	2
Ability to argue, cohesion and coherence of the argument	2
Terminology in the relevant field	1
Adhesion to the citation norm	1
Language, stylistic and formal standard of the thesis	1

COMMENTARY:

The thesis aims to analyse reasons behind fragile governmental establishment in Lebanon in the post-civil war years through describing the nature and actions of individual Lebanese governments. It has achieved its objectives of „indicating factors of good governance specific to Lebanon ... to avoid political deadlocks and stabilizing the country's situation”. The topic proves to be highly relevant given the ongoing Middle East turmoil.

The thesis does not omit any important aspect related to the need to comprehensively address the outlined issue. Slight imperfections are related to the structure; especially the introductory part may mislead the reader and bring the attention away from the importance of the subject. It would be preferable, if the thesis first outlined its objectives and methodology, leaving the topic overview (pages 4-7) as an attachment to the document. Also the historical chapters could be

written in a more dynamic way. However, the work reaches the standard of quality expected for the mark it has obtained below.

2. QUESTIONS FOR THE DEFENSE

Normally it is considered that state has a monopoly over violence: in which way has this lack of monopoly affected the stability of the Lebanese institutions? And what solution would you propose?

Your thesis suggests that it may be a solution to avoid the ethical representative system: how do you think such a system would affect Lebanon?

Optional question:

The thesis acknowledges in its conclusion that “Lebanon continues to this day to operate in a system of political confessionalism” – although the major emphasis is related to domestic political and societal aspects, the regional development also play a role. Could you elaborate on the Syrian role in the Lebanese politics (also in light of the current political unrest)?

3. SUGGESTED MARK

The suggested mark is „A“, i.e. „vyborne“.

Date: 28/05/2011

Signature: