

Supervisor's Review of the
Master's Thesis Submitted by Jin Xing
"CHINESE FOREIGN POLICY TOWARDS NORTH KOREA UNDER XI JINPING"

After 70 years of its creation, the Korean problem remains to be one of hottest points of the world politics. Moreover, the position of China towards it was always one of the major factors. The new presidential administration of the U.S. started to build its strategy on Korean issue with an attempt to make a deal with Beijing to increase a pressure on Pyongyang. New leaders of South Korea considering another, milder approach. All these circumstances make the topic of the Jin Xing dissertation very relevant and interesting.

Jin Xing devoted her thesis to studying of China-North Korea relations during the last decades, and especially since 2013. She managed to collect and analyze materials about political and economic ties between China and North Korea. She also thoroughly studied positions of all major players involved in the situation around North Korean nuclear problem: Japan, South Korea, U.S., and Russia. Conclusions of Jin Xing are based on deep knowledge of the subject, look convincing and well-reasoned.

The dissertation of Jin Xing is based on various documental and other primary sources; author demonstrates good knowledge of contemporary Korean literature on the subject. In some cases, Jin Xing had difficulties in formulating her ideas in English, but general quality of research doesn't suffer too much because of it. I consider that author has managed to bring her main points to the reader. Many aspects of the topic is known to Jin Xing "from inside", that brings special importance to her work and allows us to recommend it to everybody who interested in current developments in Korean peninsula.

The dissertation, written by Jin Xing, is the good quality research work and can be given the "excellent" grade.

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