REVIEW

by research supervisor of the graduate qualification paper submitted by the second-year student of the International Relations (in English) master's program at SPbSU

Askhad Shidukov

(first name, last name of the student)

titled NATO-EU COOPERATION IN CYBER-SECURITY AND CYBER-DEFENSE IN THE AGE OF INCREASED SUPER POWER COMPETITION

(title)

1. Assessment of the paper:

| No. | Assessment Criteria | Grade: | Reviewer's Comments |
|-----|---|---|---|
| | (codes of competences according to curriculum) | excellent, A (5.0) good, B (4.5) good, C (4.0) satisfactory, D (3.5) satisfactory, E (3.0) unsatisfactory, F (0.0)¹ | (mandatory for those criteria on which the paper is assessed critically or downgraded) |
| 1. | Academic relevance of the research problem (OПК-4, ПКА-5) | А | The topic of the research is relevant, and its description in the introduction is correct. |
| 2. | Scholarly contribution by the author (ОПК-4, ПКА-2, ПКА-3, ПКА-5, ПКА-6, ПКП-9) | А | The introduction provides a brief but reasonable description of the scientific novelty. A timely comprehensive analysis of cooperation between the two organizations |
| 3. | Appropriateness of the research objective, coherence of research objective and research tasks (OПК-4, ПКА-2, ПКА-5, ПКА-6, ПКА-10, ПКП-9) | В | It is recommended to formulate the tasks in a way they could best reflect the content of chapters. |
| 4. | Quality of the empirical scope and of the primary sources review (ПКА-2, ПКА-7, ПКП-4) | В | Classification of primary sources is required as well as a short review of practical significance of each group. |
| 5. | Comprehensiveness of secondary sources (academic literature) employed by the author (IIKA-2, IIKA-7) | А | |
| 6. | Adequacy of chosen research methods to the stated research objective and research tasks (IIKA-2, IIKA-8, IIKA-10) | В | The author does not provide the merits of choosing theoretical framework. |
| 7. | Correspondence of empirical results to the stated research objective | А | the final results of the thesis fully comply with the objective and research tasks of the study |

¹ If the paper is assessed as "unsatisfactory" based on one of the criteria, the overall recommended grade for the paper is to be "unsatisfactory", in which case a reviewer presents his/her detailed arguments in the Comments section as well as in the Conclusion/Recommendations section.

| | and research tasks (ОПК-7, ПКА-2, ПКА-3, ПКА-5, ПКА- 6, ПКП-4, ПКП-9) | | |
|----------------|---|---|--|
| 8. | Text formatting and editing (OIIK-7, IIKA-7) | А | The presented text shows that the applicant knows the writing standards for scientific papers. |
| 9. | Diligence, consistency, and responsibility demonstrated by the student when writing the paper (OIIK-7, YK-6) | A | |
| Average grade: | | А | |

2. Conclusion/Recommendations for the evaluation commission: The objective of the research is met. The author based his conclusions on a rich empirical base. It should also be highlighted that the author consistently used such methods as quantitative content analysis and discourse analysis that brought verifiable results.
3. Recommended grade (in ECTS): A

Date 10.06.22

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Yu. Boguslavskaya, Associate Professor, SPbSU

Title, name and signature of research supervisor