

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

Viola Balasanova

(first name, last name of the student)

titled **THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN TIMES OF POLITICAL INSTABILITY: THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL ASPECTS (ON THE EXAMPLE OF THE SYRIAN CONFLICT)**

1. Assessment of the paper:

No.	Assessment Criteria <small>(codes of competences according to curriculum)</small>	Grade: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	Reviewer's Comments <small>(mandatory for those criteria on which the paper is assessed critically or downgraded)</small>
1.	Academic relevance of the research problem <small>(ОПК-4, ПКА-5)</small>	• excellent, A (5.0)	
2.	Scholarly contribution by the author <small>(ОПК-4, ПКА-2, ПКА-3, ПКА-5, ПКА-6, ПКП-9)</small>	• excellent, A (5.0)	
3.	Appropriateness of the research objective, coherence of research objective and research tasks <small>(ОПК-4, ПКА-2, ПКА-5, ПКА-6, ПКА-10, ПКП-9)</small>	• excellent, A (5.0)	
4.	Quality of the empirical scope and of the primary sources review <small>(ПКА-2, ПКА-7, ПКП-4)</small>	• excellent, A (5.0)	
5.	Comprehensiveness of secondary sources (academic literature) employed by the author <small>(ПКА-2, ПКА-7)</small>	• excellent, A (5.0)	
6.	Adequacy of chosen research methods to the stated research objective and research tasks <small>(ПКА-2, ПКА-8, ПКА-10)</small>	• excellent, A (5.0)	
7.	Correspondence of empirical results to the stated research objective and research tasks <small>(ОПК-7, ПКА-2, ПКА-3, ПКА-5, ПКА-6, ПКП-4, ПКП-9)</small>	• excellent, A (5.0)	

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.

8.	Text formatting and editing <small>(ОПК-7, ПК-7)</small>	• excellent, A (5.0)	
9.	Diligence, consistency, and responsibility demonstrated by the student when writing the paper <small>(ОПК-7, УК-6)</small>	• excellent, A (5.0)	
Average grade:		• excellent, A (5.0)	

2. Conclusion/Recommendations for the evaluation commission: The thesis is written on an urgent and important topic, it is well-structured, the goals and objectives formulated in the introduction are mainly achieved. Throughout the entire period of writing the paper, the author worked closely with the supervisor, listened to his advices and recommendations. At the same time, the author proved himself to be an enthusiastic researcher striving for independent scientific research.

- **3. Recommended grade (in ECTS): excellent, A (5.0)**

7 June 2022

Professor Konstantin A. Pantserev

