



BACHELOR THESIS EVALUATION: THESIS OPPONENT

Thesis topic: Is the Maturita exam ready for the 21st century?

Author: Damián Karas

Advisor: Martin Kuruc

Opponent: Lucas Sprouse

Study program: Political Science, Liberal Arts

Evaluation contains objective and critical analysis of a bachelor thesis proposal. Evaluation should be considered by the following criteria:

Criteria for the evaluation of the final thesis	Max. points	Points given by evaluator
1. Methodological aspect (Logical frame, process of inquiry, topic specification, how realistic are set goals and how adequate are proposed working methods)	10	8
2. Sources of domestic and foreign literature, familiarity with relevant literature	15	15
3. Formatting and style	15	15
4. Scope and proportionality of content	5	5
5. Systematic approach	15	15
6. Evaluation of achieved results	40	37
Total	100	95

Final evaluation: A (95-100 points), B (83-94 points), C (68-82 points), D (55-67 points), E (50-54 points), Fx(<50 points)

Evaluation, comments, recommendations:

Damian started the basis for an extremely important conversation that needs to be had within the Slovak educational community. The fact that so little has been written about the maturita exam in the 21st century is both surprising and disappointing. Through interviewing students, teachers, and pedagogical experts, Damian has successfully outlined various problems with the current form of the maturita examination. I would have liked to see what Slovak university professors and admissions counselors have to say about the usefulness of the maturita from their perspective as well as more in the discussion section on how to fix these problems.

Questions for the author (relevant to the content of the Thesis):

1. You suggest the maturita needs to include non-cognitive (soft) skills but also claim that one of the major issues with the maturita is its subjectivity. How can we adequately test for non-cognitive skills nationwide in an objective manner?
2. You state that the criteria for the oral exam is ambiguous and varies from school to school. Could this not be seen as a benefit which allows schools to innovate, include applicable activities, and try to ensure the maturita better matches the expectations of the 21st century?
3. If the oral questions on the maturita reflect the curriculum, is the problem with the maturita exam or the educational system as a whole?

In Bratislava, on: April 28th, 2023

Signature of evaluator: 