# Charles University

# Faculty of Social Sciences

# Institute of Political Studies

# Department of Security Studies

**Master’s Thesis Proposal**

**Thesis Title**



**Name:**

**Academic advisor:**

**Study programme:**

**Year of proposal submission:**

## **Motivation**

Briefly describe your motivation for writing the thesis on a specific topic, this section should include the following (1-2 paragraphs):

* The research problem you identified and you would like to address;
* Why you intend to write about this specific problem, including what research gap you seek to fill or what addition you intend to make to the existing research (e.g. adopting a new perspective);
* The formulation of research question(s) and/or hypotheses you would like to answer and/or examine in your research.

## **Literature Review**

Here, please list 10 pieces of the existing scholarly literature (books or academic articles) related to your topic. In 1-2 sentences, say what the book/article is about and ***why*** it is important to refer to it in your literature review.

## **Theoretical Framework**

Please, briefly describe the theoretical approach you adopt to analysing your empirical data. Sometimes, you may need to outline your theoretical position through grand or middle-range theories (often, but not always, the case of researching IR phenomena), sometimes framing your research in theoretical concepts ‘only’ is more pertinent (often, but not always, the case of researching certain Security Studies phenomena). At a more advanced level, you may also want to include a reference to your meta-theoretical perspective, ontological and epistemological assumptions (not required). Please, always discuss with your advisor what type of theoretical framework is sufficient and suitable for your type of research. Write in 1-2 paragraphs while saying ***what*** theoretical perspective you intend to apply and ***why***.

## **Methodology**

In the Methodology section, you are asked to say ***what*** methodological approach you adopt and ***why*** it is suitable for your analysis, it should include the following (1-2 paragraphs):

* Methodology Type: say whether you apply a qualitative, quantitative or mixed-methods methodological approach;
* Data Type/Data Collection Method: Say what kind of empirical data you are going to use in your research and where/how you are going to gather the data;
* Data Analysis: Say how you intend to analyse the empirical data, what method(s) or approaches to data analysis you want to apply;
* Outline preliminary conceptualization (primarily qualitative research designs) or operationalization (primarily quantitative research designs) you intend to apply to your data analysis.

## **Suggested Thesis Structure**

The suggested structure of your Master’s Thesis could be based on the structure outlined below. However, it always depends on the type of research you aim to conduct and the final structure of your text depends on the kind of research design you decide to implement. Therefore, the structure of your Master’s research should always be consulted with your academic advisor.

* Introduction
* Literature Review
* Theoretical Framework
* Methodology
* Empirical Findings
* Discussion of Empirical Findings
* Conclusions

## **References**

List of references to the works referred to in the project, using the standard European citation format ISO 690 or other major citation standards, e.g. Chicago Manual of Style, Harvard referencing style, etc. Students should definitely consider using a citation manager (such as Mendeley, Zotero, etc.). For more on referencing, see our library website <https://knihovna.fsv.cuni.cz/rady-navody/jak-proc-citovat> (this version of the website is in Czech) or you can reach out to the Jinonice Library staff at [citace@fsv.cuni.cz](mailto:citace@fsv.cuni.cz) for further advice or personal consultation.