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Date: 2023/06/14 (yyyy/mm/dd)

Report on the Final Exam

Name of the Chair: Maung Aung Myoe

On behalf of the Dissertation Examining Committee, I would like to report the result of the Final Exam as follows.

1. Student ID	1C0D01
2. Name	Nisreen Y. A. Attaallah
3. Cluster	International Relations Cluster
4. Dissertation Examining Committee	Supervisor: Tomohito Shinoda
	External Examiner: Hiroyuki Suzuki
	Advisor: Maung Aung Myoe
	Advisor: Nawalage S. Cooray
5. Dissertation Title	The Impact of Transnational-International Advocacy on Israeli Settlement Policy in The Occupied Palestinian Territories: An Analysis of Sheikh Jarrah Neighborhood and The Boomerang-Spiral Model
6. Submission Date	Draft: April 10, 2023
	Final: June 12, 2023
7. Final Exam Date	May 11, 2023
8. Faculty Meeting Date	June 19, 2023
9. Degree Title	Ph.D. in International Relations
10. Result	Pass

I. Dissertation Overview and Summary of the Presentation

The dissertation examines the efficacy of transnational advocacy networks in driving domestic policy changes. Drawing literature on constructivist's norms diffusion and localization, the study employs a conceptual model known as the boomerang-spiral model of transnational-international advocacy, with some modification, to explain the prospect of desired policy change in the target state. As the case study for the dissertation, the Israeli settlement policy in the Occupied Palestinian Territories is selected to illustrate the limitation of the existing boomerang-spiral model; therefore, further modification of the model is presented. As stated in the abstract, "the study employs a single case study method following the theory-testing approach utilizing multiple data sources and mixed analysis methods, including quantitative and qualitative techniques." The research concludes that while the advocacy network achieved success by halting specific settlements, it does not guarantee bringing about a permanent solution. The Israeli lobby [in the United States], which supports the settlement policy, and the American foreign policy approach in the Middle East, which balances promoting international norms with regional interests, contributed to this outcome. These findings contribute to a better understanding of the constraints and limitations of international advocacy networks in promoting domestic policy change, particularly in cases where powerful interest groups are involved. The dissertation is an important contribution in the study of transnational advocacy networks. The presentation of the thesis is logical and the style of writing is also solid.

II. Notes from the Dissertation Examining Committee (including the changes required to the dissertation by the committee)

The dissertation examining committee finds that the dissertation is good enough to give a “Pass” grade with minor revisions. The committee understands that the thesis examines the role of Transnational-International Advocacy Network on Israeli settlement policy in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) by applying the Boomerang-Spiral model with some modifications. Although it is a single case study, the thesis highlights how it could contribute to a better understanding of the issue. Moreover, it is empirically rich. The external examiner points out three major issues to be addressed in the thesis and there are several other details. Members of the thesis supervision committees also raised several points to be considered in the revision and most of them are clarification. One issue is about the thesis format and citation; also to provide diagrams, figures and list of abbreviations. For the revision of the thesis under local supervision, the external examiner has provided written comments.

III. Confirmation by the Chair that changes have been done to the satisfaction of the committee

The candidate has addressed all the changes required by the thesis examination committee to the satisfaction of the examining committee.

IV. Overall Evaluation

The dissertation is the result of good research work and it examines the efficacy of transnational advocacy networks in driving domestic policy changes. Although it is a single case study, the dissertation highlights where we can improve and modify the explanatory power of the existing Boomerang-Spiral model for a better understanding of the role of transnational advocacy networks in driving policy changes in the target state(s). The study is also an important contribution to the body of knowledge on and our understanding of norms diffusion and localization that comes under constructivist literature.