Examiner's Report

Author   : Mgr Vojtech Smolik

Study Program   : P6701 Political Science

Qualification   : Doctor of Philosophy

Thesis Title   : Energy Security of Nigeria

The student attempts to analyze energy security in Nigeria through the energy discourse presented in selected Nigerian media. Specifically, the candidate sorted the context of energy discourse into four sub-discourses, namely social, economic, environmental and political to ensure in-depth analysis.

The student has shown a very good understanding of the subject matter. He is highly focused in investigating the topic. The student clearly identifies aspects of the research topic not already previously explored, which merits further examination. He shows clear familiarity with existing published works on the subject matter. The candidate succeeds in identifying some empirical studies on the subject matter. He provides in-depth information from existing studies reviewed and cited different perspectives. His review of literature is comprehensive in coverage. The candidate succeeds in connecting key constructs and variables to relevant, reliable theoretical and research literature.

The Title

The title of the work is informative, succinct and offers sufficiently specific details about the subject matter. The student is creative in identifying critical aspects of the research topic not explored previously.

The statement of research is well written. The candidate is able to identify the research issues and the description succeeds in establishing the importance of the problem area.

The research questions are well crafted and are quite connected to the research issues and supported by the literature. The objectives of the study are clear, reasonable, and succinct.

Literature Review

Essentially, the structure of the literature review is intuitive and sufficiently grounded to each of the key construct and variables of the study. The candidate shows clear familiarity with existing literature. Narrative integrates critical and logical details from the peer-reviewed theoretical and research literature. The candidate uses all the key concepts identified in the thesis appropriately. The literature cited is relevant and up-to-date. The language and content of the research findings are lucidly presented. Tables are appropriately placed and clearly explained.

Methodology

The methods of research adopted are quite robust. The project is well executed. The candidate uses both qualitative analysis and reflexive thematic analysis. Besides, the candidate undertakes a small-scale quantitative query using AntiCone, a digital program used for corpus analysis. The candidate demonstrates a good knowledge of the methods of analysis adopted in the work.

Discussion of Findings

The candidate succeeds in bringing out the key findings from his analysis. He sufficiently argues his points and findings. He clearly explains the meaning and importance of the findings and relates them to those of similar studies. He equally considers alternative explanations of the findings.

Recommendation

The candidate has made sufficient contributions to knowledge on the subject matter. In my opinion, the work meets the requirements set for dissertations and I recommend the text for defense.

18/12/2022

Professor, A. E. Akinlo

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