

## MASTER THESIS REVIEW

**Author:** Sipiwe Zulu  
**Thesis:** A comparative study of Environmental Policies: a case of the Kyrgyz Republic and Zambia  
**Reviewer:** Mgr. Simona Šafaříková, PhD

### Content

*The thesis fulfils its aim and stated objectives. Research questions are answered.*

*However, the student could have gone more in depth in many of the chapters and explain even better the methodological steps taken in the analysis and discussion of the results.*

*I think that in the background of the study (1.5) more focus is devoted to Kyrgyzstan, more detailed information on Zambia is missing. The student gives overview of different frameworks but I missed their more detailed discussion at the end of the work. When talking about the WPR framework (e.g. in figure 8 p. 23) several methods of data collection are mentioned. The student used just one. I feel that more methods could have been used in order to broaden the picture of the problem studied. Discourse or thematic analysis would be a great extension to what has been done.*

*In 3.3.2.1 the author selects the main topics of the environmental policies. How were these selected? It is not clear from the text.*

*In 3.4.1 the author explains about the WPR framework. The text says that it allows discovering the relationships between discourse and other social elements such as power, institutions, etc. I think that in this sense the author could have gone more in depth in the analysis.*

*In the chapter 4 the author discusses the results. The selection of the water, energy and agricultural policies is not explained. Why these were selected? What was the reason? When the student explains the links between solutions, problem representations and presuppositions/assumptions sometimes there are only selected issues explained, the presuppositions are not discussed equally (e.g. in table 3 only A and C is explained in the text, in table 4 issues C, D and F are missing explanation, etc.). However, I have to say that the student did a huge work when going through the selected environmental policy documents and there was a huge improvement in this section during the writing and after the consultations.*

*Concerning the conclusion part, I would say that it also could have gone more in depth and provide more detailed comparison (probably also other methods of data collection and analysis would have been useful).*

### Literature and references

*The student uses huge number of literature references. Here I have to say that I am very satisfied with the work of the student. She was able to find adequate sources and work with them. The style of citation has sometimes mistakes (missing dots, etc.) and the list of references at the end is not consistent.*

### Formal requirements

*The thesis has many mistakes in English (e.g. missing words in some occasions ... etc.). Sometimes the formatting is not OK, e.g. name of the figure on the page before, different formatting of the footnotes, long free spaces on several pages, etc. The abbreviations should be explained when used for the first time in the text of the paper.*

### Topics for discussion

*Why did the student choose the selected analytical framework? What are its pluses and minuses in comparison to thematic or discourse analysis? Why only document analysis was carried out?*

*Why were selected the three mentioned policies?*

*How can this study be used? Who are you going to share it with?*

*Are all the Kyrgyz policies issued in Russian? How is it with the use of the Kyrgyz language? How was the cooperation with the Alatau student?*

### Overall evaluation and proposed grade

*I think that the student proved to be interested in the selected topic. The thesis summarizes the issues around the different environmental policies in Zambia and Kyrgyzstan; however, it could have gone more in depth.*

I do recommend the thesis for defense with grade C.

**Date:** 14/6/2022

**Signature:**