

HABILITATION BOARD DECISION ON THE NOMINATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Masaryk University	
Faculty	Faculty of Social Studies
Procedure field	Sociology
Applicant	Mgr. et Mgr. Jiří Navrátil, Ph.D.
Applicant's home unit, institution	Faculty of Social Studies, Masaryk University
Habilitation thesis	Contesting post-socialism. Transformation of the Czech economic protest between 1989 and 2021

Board members

Chair

Members

prof. PhDr. Tomáš Katrňák, Ph.D. (FSS MU)
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 doc. PhDr. Dino Numerato, Ph.D. (FSV UK)

Evaluation of the applicant's scholarly/artistic qualifications

Jiří Navrátil has been talented scholar from the very beginning of his academic career. He received two MA degrees: one master's degree in political science in 2006 and one master's degree in sociology in 2007. In 2012, he finished his Ph.D. in political science while retaining a focus on political sociology. Since then, he has become – thanks to his intensive academic endeavor – an internationally recognized interdisciplinary scholar, making contributions to the fields of social movement studies, political sociology and social science methodology (social network analysis and protest event analysis). Geographically, his research focuses mainly on Central and Eastern Europe. Since 2022, he has served as a chair of the Sociology BA program at the Department of Sociology at FSS MU. Since 2024, he has taken on the role of deputy chair of the Department of Sociology.

Jiří Navrátil has published his research in well-established and widely recognized scientific journals, such as *Social Movement Studies*, *East European Politics*, *the Journal of Contemporary European Studies*, *Environmental Politics*, and *Democratization* (WOS database). He has published one monograph in Czech language (*From Economic Globalization to the "War on Terror"* (SLON, 2016), and co-authored a monograph in English language (Navrátil J. a Pospíšil M. *Dreams of Civil Society Two Decades Later* (MUNI Press, 2014). In addition, he has published several book chapters on political sociology topics in international publishing houses and several articles in other scientific journals (mostly listed in the WOS and SCOPUS databases). He has given dozens of presentations and several invited talks at international forums and academic conferences. He spent a good part of his academic career outside the FSS MU (as a post-doc researcher at the Faculty of Economics and Administration, Masaryk University and at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University) or as an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Humanities, Charles University). In 2023, as principal investigator, he launched the project funded by the Czech Science Foundation, which focuses on the economic protests in Czechia and Slovakia in the last three

decades. Throughout his academic career, he has maintained close contact with leading European experts in various academic fields and has been part of transnational research projects and networks focusing on the analysis of political mobilization, collective action and social network research. He regularly participates in the organization of conference panels at international conferences, as well as in the organization of workshops in the Czech Republic, which bring together experts with a common research interest. To sum up Jiří Navrátil's scholarly qualifications, we must positively evaluate his important and internationally recognized contribution to the scholarship in the areas of social network analysis and social movements, with a specific focus on Central and Eastern Europe.

Conclusion: The applicant's scholarly/artistic capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a habilitation procedure in the field of Sociology.

Evaluation of the applicant's pedagogical experience

Jiří Navrátil has a broad experience as a teacher. He taught more than 20 various courses in various academic institutions and universities (Department of Sociology and Department of Public Economics in Masaryk University, Department of Civil Society Studies in Charles University). The fields of his academic teaching are social research methodology, political sociology, sociology of politics, political movements at the bachelor's as well as master's levels. The courses covered topics such as sociological research designs, statistical analysis, sociological theory, politics and social movements, and social network analysis. Jiří is also a teacher in the course with the title "Society and Movie" which is currently very popular among students at FSS MU. Jiří Navrátil is an excellent teacher. His courses are attractive for students. The students' evaluations of these courses are on a high level. Some of these courses have also been attractive to students from other faculties at MU. Tightly connected to FSS MU during his academic life, even though in the Department of Public Economics from the beginning of his academic career, Jiří has rich experience with collaborations at universities, faculties, and other institutions in the Czech Republic as well as in wide abroad, where he has strong academic connections.

Conclusion: The applicant's pedagogical capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a habilitation procedure in the field of Sociology.

Habilitation thesis evaluation

Jiří Navrátil's habilitation thesis is an original scholarly work that does not contain sections already published and is intended to appear as a book with an international publishing house. The habilitation thesis has been evaluated by three independent reviewers. These were prof. Mario Diani from Trento University, Associate Prof. Katrin Uba from Uppsala university, and Associate prof. Petr Ocelík from Masaryk university. Generally, these reviewers evaluate the habilitation thesis very positively. For instance, Mario Diani writes in the beginning of his review: "this is solid and competent piece of work that addresses an important conceptual and empirical issue, namely, how to apply a genuinely relation logic to the study of the evolution of collective action fields over time". Or Katrin Uba in the beginning of her review says: "... this exciting thesis about post-socialist economic protests in changing economic and political contexts". Petr Ocelík from Masaryk University suggests that "... the habilitation thesis presents an ambitious project that aims to map and examine inter-organizational patterns of economic protest in Czechia... and fills the research gap "between the examination of particular mechanisms and dynamics through which the "double movement" occurs". All three reviews conclude that the thesis fulfils the requirements for a habilitation thesis. Nevertheless, all these reviews have some additional questions and

improvements for further research in this analytical field. Below are some questions that should be discussed during the presentation:

- M. Diani: Why to assign so much importance to the category of counter-movement?
- M. Diani: Why does the study exclude social movements organizations with an institutionalized repertoire of action, non-protesting interest groups, lobbying agencies or various service-provision oriented civil society actors?
- K. Uba: It would be helpful to explain what kind of case is the case of the Czech Republic: Representative to post-socialist countries? Possibly not for the countries that were part of the Soviet Union, as the economic and political rule in the Eastern block and Soviet Union differed, but there were also some interesting economic protests in the last.
- P. Ocelík: Considering your dataset, is it possible to explore the relationship between the socioeconomic protest and some kind of ideological homophily (likely node-level attributes)?

Conclusion: The applicant's habilitation thesis **meets** the requirements expected of habilitation theses in the field of Sociology.

Secret ballot results

Number of board members	5
Number of votes cast	5
Number of votes in favour	5

Board decision

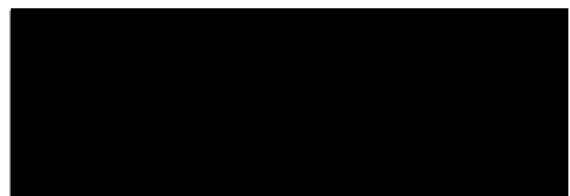
Based on the outcome of the secret vote and following an evaluation of the applicant's scholarly or artistic qualifications, pedagogical experience and habilitation thesis, the board hereby submits a proposal to the scientific board of the Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University to

appoint the applicant associate professor of Sociology.

terminate the procedure.

Date: 31. 1. 2025

prof. PhDr. Tomáš Katrňák, Ph.D.



signature