



**RUSSIA INTERVENTION IN THE SYRIAN CIVIL WAR (2015-  
2020)**

**UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**

**Submitted as one of the requirements to obtain  
Sarjana Sosial**

**By**

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Cikarang**

**February, 2023**

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This thesis entitled “Russia Intervention in the Syrian Civil War (2015-2020)” prepared and submitted by Theresia Avila Almada in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of International Relations in the Faculty of Humanities has been reviewed and found to have satisfied the requirements for a thesis fit to be examined. I therefore recommend this thesis for Oral Defense.

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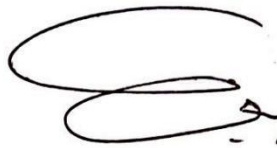
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PresidentUniversity11.INTRODUCTION

1.1BackgroundoftheStudy

Asanation-state,Russiahasitsagendaforitsnationalinterest.Russiahas beensupportingSyriainthecivilwarthatoccurredin2015betweenthepro-AssadgovernmentandAssad'sopposition,whichresultedfromthearabspring's dominoeffect(Lynchetal.,2014;Žuber&Moussa,2018).TheformofRussia's assistanceisthroughmilitarypersonnelandequipment.Theinterventionof RussiaintheSyriancivilwaralsohasunderminingmeans,whichgivesRussia theupperpositionintheshortandlongterm.TheSyriangovernment'ssupport haspoliticalfactorsthataimtoconsolidatethecurrentSyriangovernmentto preserveregionalstabilityintheMiddleEast(Maher&Pieper,2020).

ThecollapseoftheUSSRmarkstheendingofthecoldwarbetweenthe



various times, Russia has been doing behavior that contradicted the United States and vice versa. The Middle East is considered one of the most important and strategic locations, blessed by the richness of its soil resources (Li & Ma, 2010). The region's soil has tempted many states worldwide to control its resources due to its low-cost oil production, high production rate, and quality (Mansour, 1995). Therefore, dominating the region would bring abundant benefits. Russia and the U.S. are considered among the two top actors aiming for regional dominance.

Russia perceives Syria as one of the most essential and critical regions, important for respectivenation-states' political agendas, especially in its security and economy. Thus, the Syrian situation has become the field for Russia to fight for dominance with the mainly U.S., with Russia supporting the pro-Assad and the U.S. with other western countries supporting the anti-Assad groups. In this President University 2 case, after several military operations, it turned out that Russia had the upper hand over the conflict in Syria. This situation benefits Russia to exploit its position to use Syria as a tool to establish a balance of power.

### 1.2 Statement of the Problem

Russia, as a nation-state, has its respectivenational interest. However, the situation in Syria cornered Russia to intervene in the Syrian Civil War to minimize further threats as it awaits the Syrian Civil War is won by the opposition group and to topple President Bashar al-Assad. One of the principal threats perceived by Syria is the United States of America's hegemony which has made

