**7-15 pages long, font 14, Times New Roman, typed, 1.5-spaced, standard margins, not including abstract and appendices.**

**Structure of the 1st part of Essay**

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| --- | --- |
| Annotation | Short description of the RQ, novelty and main results (up to 200 words) |
| Introduction | Main research question. Why this RQ is worth studying, existing gaps and mixed results in the field you want to cover (contribution). Short description of the research design, main hypotheses (expectations), structure of the paper |
| Literature review | Extended version of the introduction. Contains:  1. main theoretical approaches to the concepts under investigation;  2. description of the main determination mechanisms for your dependent variable (not simple description of what influences what, explain why and how).  3. Supporting empirical evidence  4. Refuting empirical evidence  5. Possible explanation of why it happens. It should be linked to your research question. By investigating this RQ and using your research design (in our case - this is selection of two specific countries) you resolve this contradiction  6. Research hypotheses  7. Possible alternative explanations which you will use as control variables |
| Data and methods | Describe data set  Dependent, independent, control variables. How they are measured (description of scales). |