



The intersection of autocracy and technocracy within China’s governance under the leadership of Xi Jinping has sparked significant scholarly and public discourse. This thesis explores the dynamic relationship between the distinct Chinese political system and technocratic policy implementation through a focused analysis of the zero-COVID policy. Drawing from political science and international relations literature, this study examines the origins, mechanisms, and implications of China’s zero-COVID policy under Xi Jinping. By delving into the historical, political, and socio-economic factors that have shaped China’s approach to pandemic management, this thesis aims to elucidate the intricate interplay between the Chinese government system, technocratic expertise, and crisis response strategies. Furthermore, it critically evaluates the effectiveness, limitations, and ethical considerations associated with the implementation of the zero-COVID policy within China’s unique political context. By shedding light on the complexities of autocratic-technocratic governance models in the face of global health crises, this research contributes to broader discussions surrounding governance, autocratic and technocratic regimes, and the evolving role of China in the international arena.

Keywords: Zero-COVID policy, Technocracy, Chinese Communist Party, Xi Jinping