

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

Student:	Veronika Marková
Advisor:	doc. Ing. Tomáš Cahlík, CSc.
Title of the thesis:	How Smart will be Europe 2020? A Panel Data Analysis

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

Please provide your assessment of each of the following four categories. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.

Contribution

This thesis analyses the targets for education under Europe 2020 strategy. The aim of the work is to predict the future development for 2 indicators (early leavers from education and tertiary education attainment) up to 2020 and answer the question, whether these targets will be fulfilled. The work is very interesting and deals with the topic of human capital. As there are not many papers related to potential fulfillment of 2020 Europe strategy, I consider the thesis to be very contributive. I would only suggest to improve the discussion of the empirical results with economic situation in both European union and individual member countries.

Methods

Student uses panel data and OLS approach to solve the problem with missing data. The forecast projection is done by simple dynamic equation considering aging population. The used methods are standard and adequate to bachelor level of studies.

Literature

The author gives an exhaustive list of studies dealing with the human capital theory. She also compares her results with results of other studies, which is highly valuable. The literature is cited well.

Manuscript form

Manuscript is written neat. The thesis is logically structured, the used style and language is appropriate for bachelor thesis.

The thesis is nice economic investigation. However, I still have some points to discuss:

- How could be the results of this work used to improve educational system in individual EU countries?
- How would the author explain the low tertiary education attainment in Italy?
- How would the author explain higher level of low educated men than women in some countries (BE, EL, ES, PT, IT,...)
- How could the author explain high level of low education in MT, PT, IT?

I believe that the thesis meets requirements put on students at the bachelor level. Overall, it is a fine thesis with explicit value, standard econometric work and interesting results. Therefore, I recommend the grade „výborné“ (1).

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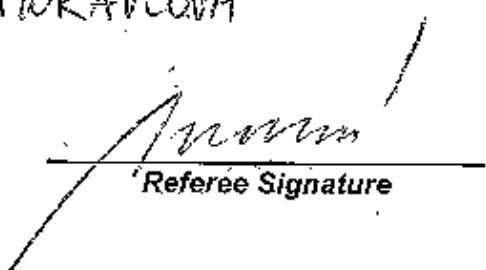
SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for details, see below):

CATEGORY	POINTS
Contribution (max. 30 points)	25
Methods (max. 30 points)	25
Literature (max. 20 points)	16
Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)	16
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	82
GRADE (1-2-3-4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Ing. MICHALA MORAVCOVA

DATE OF EVALUATION:

6.9.2017


Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

LITERATURE REVIEW: *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0

METHODS: *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

Strong Average Weak
30 15 0

CONTRIBUTION: *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

Strong Average Weak
30 15 0

MANUSCRIPT FORM: *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0

Overall grading:

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE		
81 - 100	1	= excellent	= výborně
61 - 80	2	= good	= velmi dobře
41 - 60	3	= satisfactory	= dobře
0 - 40	4	= fail	= nedoporučuji k obhajobě