

# Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

<b>Student:</b>	<b>Abdul Zaher Noor</b>
<b>Advisor:</b>	<b>Doc. Julie Chytilová, Ph.D.</b>
<b>Title of the thesis:</b>	<b>The Economic Impact of Climate Change</b>

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

*Please provide your assessment of each of the following four categories, summary and suggested questions for the discussion. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.*

### **Contribution**

The research question of what are the short-term and long-term impacts of climate change is important but very broadly formulated. The impact of climate change has been studied extensively and it is not clear what is the contribution of the thesis compared to the existing literature, and what is the specific research question.

The first parts of the thesis are mostly descriptive and discuss the findings of various streams of literature on climate change. This might be useful, but it would be worth to provide a more structured discussion which would put all these findings in a broader context, or would provide a structured comparison. Since the main question is the comparison of short-run and long-run effects, one would expect a clear distinction and comparison of the findings in these two categories – instead the reader is left with more qualitative discussion which is less convincing.

Chapter 3 provides author's own empirical analysis. The author analyzes panel data with the aim to study the relationship between GDP and carbon emissions. One would expect that this specific question has been studied before and it would be worth to provide (i) an overview of this literature and its findings, which is now completely missing, and (ii) an explanation in what respect author's analysis differs from the approaches of the past studies.

### **Methods**

The author provides an overview of the existing studies which used various methods to estimate the impact of climate change. In his own empirical analysis, to study the link between GDP and emissions, he uses appropriate econometric techniques to analyze panel data.

### **Literature**

The author references both the relevant policy reports as well as academic work related to the topic. As mentioned above, it would be worth to put the cited studies more into context and structure the discussion of the existing literature.

### **Manuscript form**

The manuscript has a standard form, but it needs more structure. At many places it is unclear whether the author discusses the results of own analysis or other's work (although it is correctly referenced later on).

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## Summary and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

To sum up, I believe the thesis fulfills the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, and suggest grade D.

A suggested question for the discussion during the defense:

- Can you elaborate on the relationship between GDP and carbon emissions? I can imagine that GDP can affect emissions, but at the same time emissions can affect GDP. What might be the reasons for this? What does this imply for the econometric analysis in your thesis?

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

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	13
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	20
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	15
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	15
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (max. 100 points)	<b>63</b>
<b>GRADE</b> (A – B – C – D – E – F)	<b>D</b>

**NAME OF THE REFEREE:** Julie Chytilova

**DATE OF EVALUATION:** August 30, 2018

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**Referee Signature**

**EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:**

**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.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
30	15	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.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
30	15	0

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

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
20	10	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.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
20	10	0

**Overall grading:**

TOTAL	GRADE
91 – 100	A
81 - 90	B
71 - 80	C
61 – 70	D
51 – 60	E
0 – 50	F