

Institut ekonomických studií

Fakulta sociálních věd, Karlova universita Praha Referee report on the Master Thesis submitted to State Exam

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|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Student Name: | Martin Kopecký |
| Thesis Supervisor Name: | Michaela Erbenová |
| Thesis Title: | Labor Costs in Industrialized Countries – Is there a Convergence? |

Overall Evaluation:

Předložená práce zpracovává téma konvergence nákladů práce. Uvádí teoretické pozadí vhodné pro analýzu konvergence nákladů práce (Samuelsonova hypotéza vyrovnání cen faktorů produkce mezi ekonomikami, role nadnárodních společností a mobility kapitálu) a ke každému teoretickému přístupu uvádí přehled literatury. Ve čtvrté části autor pojednává Balassa-Samuelsonův efekt v kontextu tranzitivních ekonomik. Již to je samo o sobě je přínosem práce, nicméně těžiště spočívá v ekonometrických odhadech konvergence nákladů práce v části 5.

Autor prokázal schopnost aplikovat velmi kultivovaně ekonomickou teorii i ekonometrické metody při analýze konkrétního a velmi aktuálního problému s řadou aplikací pro hospodářskou politiku.

Práci doporučuji k obhajobě, komisi navrhuji hodnocení výborně.

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for the explanation of categories and scale, please, see below):

| CATEGORY | POINTS |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Quality of Research | 28 |
| Clarity and Readability | 38 |
| Content/Quality of Ideas | 14 |
| Organization & Development | 10 |
| Manuscript Form | 5 |
| TOTAL POINTS | 95 |
| LETTER GRADE | A |

(Signature)

Tomáš Čížek, Associate Professor of Economics

Evaluated on: June 14, 2007

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Explanation of categories and scale:

QUALITY OF RESEARCH: *The thesis demonstrates the author's full understanding and command of current literature and he/she uses it competently. The topic of the thesis is well structured and methods used are proper and relevant to the research question being investigated. A full and accurate analysis of thesis statement, from both a theoretical and applied perspective, is provided.*

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|-------------|---|---|
| <i>Strong</i> | | | <i>Middle</i> | | | | <i>Weak</i> | | |
| 30 | 27 | 24 | 21 | 18 | 15 | 12 | 8 | 4 | 0 |

CONTENT/QUALITY OF IDEAS: *A range and depth of exposition; an appropriate sense of complexity of the topic; appropriate analysis of the thesis statement; and an accurate understanding of theoretical concepts is demonstrated. A full discussion of applicable and relevant theories stylized data is included. Original, creative thought is provided and evident. Demonstrates critical thinking and analysis with application of theory and student's ability to draw conclusions based on their knowledge, skills and research.*

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|---------------|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|-------------|---|---|
| <i>Strong</i> | | | <i>Middle</i> | | | | <i>Weak</i> | | |
| 40 | 36 | 32 | 28 | 24 | 20 | 15 | 10 | 5 | 0 |

ORGANIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT: *The paper demonstrates a logical and clear arrangement of ideas; an effective use of transitions; a unity and coherence of paragraphs; and a clear development of ideas through supporting detail and evidence. The reader is successfully oriented to the subject, purpose, methodology, and structure of the report; an overview of the whole is included; the reader's attention and interest is engaged. The thesis statement is clearly and definitively stated without ambiguity. The conclusion is strong and reflective of the work as a whole.*

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|---------------|----|----|---------------|---|---|-------------|---|---|
| <i>Strong</i> | | | <i>Middle</i> | | | <i>Weak</i> | | |
| 15 | 13 | 12 | 10 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 |

CLARITY AND READIBILITY: *Ease of readability; appropriate use of language and style for the rhetorical content; clarity of sentences (reader doesn't get lost; minimum need for slowing down or re-reading) is appropriately demonstrated. Professional level of English expression is evident (limited amount of non-native language to English translation is detectable).*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|---------------|---|---|-------------|---|---|
| <i>Strong</i> | | | <i>Middle</i> | | | <i>Weak</i> | | |
| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

MANUSCRIPT FORM: *The appropriate manuscript form and style for the rhetorical content; a professional image; an appropriate use of headings and sub-headings; an appropriate format for graphs and tables; an effective referencing of graphs and tables in the text; complete and accurate bibliography documented to support the applied research; and the overall impact of document design is considered.*

| | | | | | |
|---------------|---|---------------|---|-------------|---|
| <i>Strong</i> | | <i>Middle</i> | | <i>Weak</i> | |
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |