

Advisor's Report on Dissertation Thesis

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Title of the Thesis:	Essays on the Impact of Technological Change on Economic Structure
Type of Defense:	DEFENSE
Date of Pre-Defense	December 14, 2022

The dissertation thesis presents empirical research that examine relationships between technological change on one hand and structural changes and economic performance on the other hand. These are relevant research topics that touch upon important policy issues, especially in the context of countries behind the technology frontier, including the former transition and developing countries. The thesis is well-written and provides original insights to international literature on these topics. I therefore recommend the thesis for defense without substantial changes.

The original contribution of the papers is vindicated by the fact that two of the three papers have been already published. First and foremost, the paper on "Who Benefits from Global Value Chain Participation? Does Functional Specialization Matter?" (Chapter 3) has been published in a well-established and respected field journal *Structural Change and Economic Dynamics* (Q1 in the WoS category Economics), which is one of traditional journals in the literature on economics of innovation that is highly recognized around the world, and in which seminal contributions to the topic of technology change and economic development have been published over the years. Second, the paper on "Heterogeneity of Returns to


Business R&D: What Makes a Difference?" came out in the Prague Economic Papers (Q4 in the WoS category Economics), which is one of the better local scientific journals in the field of economics that has an international outreach.

The reviewers are encouraged to reflect on whether the thesis is defensible at their home institution or another respected institution where they gave lectures. In this respect, I am glad to confirm that the thesis would have a very good prospects to be defended at both the University of Oslo as well as Lund University, to which I have been affiliated as a senior researcher and Associate Professor over the years, respectively. In addition, the thesis would be surely defensible in other respectable Czech higher-education institutions that run similar doctoral programmes, such as the Prague University of Economics and Business or Masaryk University.

In my view, the author satisfactorily reflected on comments of both the opponents and the committee and revised the thesis accordingly. In particular, the author extended the introduction, updated the literature review, including originality claim(s), clarified a couple of issues in presentation and discussion of the methodology, corrected several typing errors that have been spotted by careful reading of the thesis by the opponents and overall improved readability of the thesis. I am convinced that there are no more serious issues that need to be addressed and that the thesis is ready for defence.

Finally, it should be highlighted that all of the three papers that are presented in the thesis are single-authored. Hence, they are solely written by the author – from their inception and design, to working with the data, running the estimates, presenting the results, writing drafts, and to handling of the actual publication process - without excessive interference or help of

anybody else, including his supervisor. The author should be given a high credit for achieving that. Surely, he has proved that he has learnt the trade of doing research in this field and that he is worthy of the doctoral title.

Date:	September 27, 2023
Advisor's Signature	
Advisor's Affiliation	Ing. Martin Srholec Ph.D. (CERGE-EI)