

Report on Master Thesis

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

Student:	Bc. Zuzana Meteláková
Advisor:	doc. PhDr. Adam Geršl, Ph.D.
Title of the thesis:	Does Bank Regulation and Supervision Impact Income Inequality? Cross-Country Evidence

OVERALL ASSESSMENT

Short summary

This is an excellent and well-written Master's Thesis with a strong value added a up-to-date methodology focusing on a relevant topic.

Contribution

This thesis explores an underresearched topic of how bank regulation and supervision practices affect income inequality. It does it in two different ways – directly (analyzing the association between the degree of tightness of bank regulation and inequality) and indirectly (whether and how the effect of macroprudential policy on income inequality depends on the stance of microprudential policy). There is only a very limited number of studies dealing with this, mostly under the literature on financial liberalization“. This Master's Thesis fills the gap and provides new relevant insights.

Methods

The thesis uses up-to-date methods suitable for this type of a research question (GMM to control for the potential endogeneity). Zuzana Metelakova has analyzed the data in detail and explored several different approaches before the final version was prepared. The thesis also includes robustness checks. The only limitation of the analysis was the data availability for the indices to capture bank regulation and supervision. The current dataset cover the period 1973-2013 based on the article by Omori (2022) and Zuzana Metelakova also tried to get an update from the author, but it was not yet available. Despite this, and given that there is no alternative, the findings are relevant.

Literature

The review of literature is very well done and it is very clear how this thesis contributes to existing knowledge as captured by the surveyed papers and articles.

Manuscript form

The thesis is written very well – all is explained, the language is clear and concise. The findings are understandable and well described.

Overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

The results of the Turnitin analysis do not indicate significant text similarity with other available sources. In my view, the thesis fulfills the requirements for a Master's Thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, I recommend it for the defense, suggest a grade A, and recommend that this thesis is nominated for one of the student prizes.

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	28
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	29
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	20
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	20
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	97
GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)	A

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NAME OF THE REFEREE: Doc. Adam Geršl

DATE OF EVALUATION: June 10, 2024

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.*

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.*

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

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.*

Overall grading:

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