

# Report on Master Thesis

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

Student:	David McFarlin
Advisor:	Doc. Ing. Tomáš Cahlík, CSc.
Title of the thesis:	Assessing Language Value in the EU: A New Approach to a Lingering Barrier

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

The aim of this thesis is to analyze language as a factor of economic performance.

This thesis is well structured. After a short overview of European languages and the EU position with respect to them, the author puts languages into the context of the Optimum Currency Area theory. The most original is the 3<sup>rd</sup> part, where some models for language value and future production are developed. In the final chapter, the author discusses the consequences his work could have for the EU language policy.

Author presents some interesting and original ideas and I really appreciate this.

I have consulted with the author the preceding versions of this thesis and in this final version, all my comments have been taken into account already.

For the final discussion, I suggest to discuss the dynamic language policy for the EU.

I recommend this thesis for the final discussion. I suggest evaluating it with an A and – maybe – to recommend it for the Dean's reward.

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

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	20
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	20
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	30
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	20
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (max. 100 points)	<b>90</b>
<b>GRADE</b> (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	<b>1</b>

**NAME OF THE REFEREE:** *Tomáš Cahlík*

**DATE OF EVALUATION:** *May 26, 2011*

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**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	<b>1</b>	= excellent	= výborně
61 – 80	<b>2</b>	= good	= velmi dobře
41 – 60	<b>3</b>	= satisfactory	= dobře
0 – 40	<b>4</b>	= fail	= nedoporučuji k obhajobě