

Report on Bachelor Thesis

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

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| Student: | Petr Choutka |
| Advisor: | Petr Janský, M.Sc. |
| Title of the thesis: | Determinants of FDI in Sub-Saharan Africa |

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

The thesis of Petr Choutka studies the foreign direct investment (FDI) flows into Sub-Saharan Africa and asks whether these are still concentrated in natural resource sectors. He hypothesises that recent improvements in institutions might have attracted FDI to other sectors. He employs standard econometric methods to test this and similar hypotheses.

The author does a very good job of introducing the reader to the topic, FDI more generally and in Sub-Saharan countries specifically. The econometric methods used are appropriate, albeit imperfect in this setting – if he is to continue researching in this area, he should try to challenge some of the obstacles that all economists are facing when estimating the determinants of FDI.

Although the thesis has important topic and many merits, there are still areas for improvement. For example, the thesis would benefit from being rewritten a few more times so that the exposition is even more clear and some of the introductory and policy sections would benefit from reading more on the topic in the existing literature.

Petr Choutka wrote a very good empirical thesis, for which I think he deserves to get grade 1.

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

| CATEGORY | POINTS |
|---|---------------|
| <i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points) | 15 |
| <i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points) | 28 |
| <i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points) | 25 |
| <i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points) | 18 |
| TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points) | 86 |
| GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4) | 1 |

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NAME OF THE REFEREE:

DATE OF EVALUATION:

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 | 1 | = excellent | = výborně |
| 61 – 80 | 2 | = good | = velmi dobře |
| 41 – 60 | 3 | = satisfactory | = dobře |
| 0 – 40 | 4 | = fail | = nedoporučuji k obhajobě |