

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Lucie Blechová
Advisor:	PhDr. Kateřina Pavloková
Title of the thesis:	Long-Term Care in the Czech Republic: The Way Forward

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

The thesis presents a framework for projecting the future long-term care public expenditures. Author explains the model and uses the data for the Czech Republic for projecting the long-term care public expenditure in the country over the years 2010 to 2060.

The model is based on four main blocks – the demographic projection of population structure by age, the projection of future GDP and the models of expenditures on social and medical components of long-term care (three different scenarios are presented for the latter). The model is well-explained and reasonable, the author emulates the methodology of several other studies. Given the complexity of the model it necessarily operates with a wide set of assumptions with some of them being very unreliable given the length of the prediction period - especially considering the fact that some of the parameters used in the prediction, such as care allowances for the disabled, are at the government's discretion and thus kind of unstable and hardly predictable. The author later realistically delimits the scope of the model when discussing the other factors related to long-term care that are not captured in the data and in the projections (typically due to problems with their measurement and predicatbility). Even though I do not believe that it is possible to make precise predictions of any kind for the 50-year long period of time, the model can at least give the reader some quantitative insight into the effect of population ageing on the public expenditures. From this viewpoint I consider the results relevant and interesting.

Overall, I consider the thesis fully competent and interesting. The author proved her ability of working with other academic literature, processing the data and writing an interesting economic text. I also generally appreciate the formal elements of the thesis, such as level of English, graphical layout and others. I cannot but propose the grade 1.

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

CATEGORY		POINTS
Literature	(max. 20 points)	20
Methods	(max. 30 points)	26
Contribution	(max. 30 points)	26
Manuscript Form	(max. 20 points)	20
TOTAL POINTS	(max. 100 points)	92
GRADE	(1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Mgr. Michal Lebovič

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Referee Signature