

REPORT ON THE MASTER THESIS

IEPS – International Economic and Political Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

Title of the thesis:	Globalization and small countries –unique challenges, universal solutions
Author of the thesis:	Katerina Petkovska
Referee (incl. titles):	Doc. Ing. Tomáš Cahlík, CSc.

Remark: It is a standard at the FSV UK that the Referee's Report is at least 500 words long. In case you will assess the thesis as "non-defendable", please explain the concrete reasons for that in detail.

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Theoretical background (max. 20)</i>	15
<i>Contribution (max. 20)</i>	15
<i>Methods (max. 20)</i>	15
<i>Literature (max. 20)</i>	20
<i>Manuscript form (max. 20)</i>	20
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100)	85
The proposed grade (1-2-3-4)	1,5

You can even use a decimal point (e.g. giving the grade of 2.5 for 60 points).

Comments of the referee on the thesis highlights and shortcomings (following the 5 numbered aspects of your assessment indicated below).

1) Theoretical background: This thesis describes contemporary history in the area of international economics and economic development. It uses concepts of institutional economics and international trade. The background is fine but I miss a more developed theoretical background for the 4th chapter (on TRIPS and related topics).

2) Contribution:

Author puts together a lot of facts about different countries and shows that some universal solutions have been used in the history of currently developed countries that these countries do not recommend nowadays (infant industry protection e.g.). The main contribution is in the case study from Macedonia. I appreciate clear formulation of political suggestions for Macedonia even if I see problematic features in some of them. I miss deeper contrasting of author's suggestions with other possible policies – e.g. full opening to globalization.

3) Methods:

Author uses both inductions: shows how from particular cases of single countries universal solutions crystallize and deduction: how universal solutions can be used in Macedonia. She works with good data sources and data presentation is on the average IEPS level. Me as supervisor always expect an above average IEPS level, so I miss the use of some simple econometric techniques for hypotheses testing.

4) Literature:

I think the author has covered a lot of interesting and relevant resources; without objections from me.

5) Manuscript form:

Author uses a lot of acronyms and abbreviations; it would help the reader to have a list of them. All other formal aspects are in my opinion all right.

DATE OF EVALUATION: May 22, 2014

Referee Signature

The referee should give comments to the following requirements:

1) THEORETICAL BACKGROUND: Can you recognize that the thesis was guided by some **theoretical fundamentals** relevant for this thesis topic? Were some important theoretical concepts omitted? Was the theory used in the thesis consistently incorporated with the topic and hypotheses tested?

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0 points

2) CONTRIBUTION: Evaluate if the author presents **original ideas** on the topic and aims at demonstrating **critical thinking** and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and relevant empirical material. Is there a distinct **value added** of the thesis (relative to knowledge of a university-educated person interested in given topic)? Did the author explain **why** the observed phenomena occurred? Were the policy implications well founded?

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0 points

3) METHODS: Are the **hypotheses** for this study clearly stated, allowing their further verification and testing? Are the theoretical explanations, empirical material and **analytical tools** used in the thesis relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the aspiration level of the study? Is the thesis **topic comprehensively analyzed** and does the thesis not make trivial or irrelevant detours off the main body stated in the thesis proposal? More than 10 points signal an exceptional work, **which requires your explanation "why" it is so**.

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0 points

4) LITERATURE REVIEW: The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and **command of recent literature**. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way and disposes with a representative bibliography. (Remark: references to Wikipedia, websites and newspaper articles are a sign of **poor research**). If they dominate you cannot give more than 8 points. References to books published by prestigious publishers and articles in renowned journals give much better impression.

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0 points

5) MANUSCRIPT FORM: The thesis is **clear and well structured**. The author uses appropriate language and style, including academic **format** for quotations, graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables, is easily readable and **stimulates thinking**.

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0 points

Overall grading scheme at FSV UK:

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE	Czech grading	US grading
81 – 100	1	= excellent	= A
61 – 80	2	= good	= B
51 – 60	3	= satisfactory	= C
41 – 50	3	= satisfactory	= D
0 – 40	4	= fail	= not recommended for defence