Master Thesis Proposal

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

Author: Gustavo de Luna Gallardo
E-mail: gustalos77@hotmail.com
Phone: +420774088413
Specialization: Economics and Finance

Supervisor: PhDr. Wadim Strielkowski, Ph.D.
E-mail: strielkowski@fsv.cuni.cz
Phone: +420603508627
Defense Planned: June 2014

Notes: The proposal should be 2-3 pages long. Save it as “yoursurname_proposal.doc” and send it to mejstrik@fsv.cuni.cz, tomas.havranek@ies-prague.org, and zuzana.irssova@ies-prague.org. Subject of the e-mail must be: “JEM001 Proposal (Yoursurname)”.

Proposed Topic:
Analyzing the integration of migrants in the Czech Republic: lessons for the EU integration

Topic Characteristics:

The region’s economic prosperity, increasing business structure and a high level of political stability have turned Europe into a favorable destination for many migrants. This phenomenon led to the fact that European societies have to directly confront ethnic, cultural and religious diversity. Multicultural societies could provide each country with the opportunity to enhance economic growth, optimize and stabilize market conditions, consolidate better business laws and regulations between nations, and thus, improve life standards and reduce poverty levels.

However, despite the benefits proposed by integration of immigrants, some countries still have certain factors that hinder this process. Barbşova and Barš, (2005) mention in their report entitled “Immigration and integration policy in the U.S., Western Europe and the Czech Republic” that countries with positive migration inflows under Communist regime have difficulties with the integration of these groups making it more challenging; such arguments are part of the motivation that places this research in the territory of the Czech Republic.

With the aim of studying the integration of these people in mind, national minorities are defined as all groups of foreigners, immigrants and non-nationals living on the territory of the Czech Republic. Then, for practical purposes will concentrate in the segment of Ukrainian nationals living on the Czech territory because this group represents the largest share of foreigners and can be used as representative sample in my research.

In order to measure the level of integration of these social segments the database provided by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the Czech Statistical Office will be used. The behavior of indicators such as the number of immigrants, the amount of permanent residency permits granted, the quantity of jobs held by immigrants, the average wages of these and their level of education will represent the level of integration of these groups within of Czech society.

In addition to the issue of national minorities, this thesis will aim at measuring the impact of the social integration with regard to the political and market integration of the Czech Republic with the European Union.

According to the second article of the European Union, the political and market integration among countries in the regions seek to provide a balanced and sustainable development of economic activities. As a result, the employment level will increase, the prices stability will be maintained and the market will experience a higher degree of competitiveness and quality in their operations. Thus, in order to measure the integration of Czech Republic with the EU, factors such as the amount of trade, capital flows to the Czech region, levels of
employment, domestic debt levels, inflation and interest rates will be taken into account; this information will be obtained from the website of Eurostat.

With the information extracted from these factors, research should be able to determine the impact and the type of correlation between the factors of integration of national minorities with respect to the integration of the Czech Republic with the European Union.

Hypotheses:

1. Integration of migrants should present a positive and statistically significant correlation with respect to the political and market integration of Czech Republic and the European Union.

Methodology:

Principal Component Analysis:
I. Correlation matrix
II. Factor analysis:
   a) Kaiser criterion
   b) Square factor loading

Outline:

1. Introduction
2. Theoretical background
3. National minorities integration: a literature review
4. Integration of Czech Republic to EU literature review
5. Hypothesis development
6. Outline of methodology and data
7. Testing correlation of national minorities integration with respect to Integration of Czech Republic to EU
8. Empirical results and discussion
9. Conclusions
10. References

Core Bibliography:


Jörg König and Renate Ohr (2012): “Homogeneous groups within a heterogeneous community - Evidence from an index measuring European economic integration”.


Gary S. Becker (1957): “The Economics of Discrimination”.

[Signature]
Author

[Signature]
Supervisor