

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Adam Nedvěď
Advisor:	PhDr. Ing. Jiří Skuhrovec
Title of the thesis:	Analysis of decision making of the Czech Office for the protection of Competition in public procurement cases

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

The work analyzes protests against buyer decisions in public procurement. It is well written as well as methodologically sound, above the standard level of bachelor thesis. Moreover it brings results, which are policy relevant – it documents merits of strategic bidder behavior in EU funded procurements. Here the buyer is heavily constrained by time and though pressure can be induced through delaying his ability to award contract. This leads to crucial finding that complaints against EU funded procurements do strongly pay off.

I recommend to grade the thesis as excellent.

Comments:

1. On many places of the work, sentences seem to be changing ideas and topics very quickly (such as first paragraph of 2.2). For writing coherent and well readable text, I strongly suggest considering slower pace, perhaps leaving out less critical assertions in favor of better explaining vital ones.
2. It is generally a bad idea to combine literature review with introduction. Whereas appropriate sourcing is important in later text, the introduction should provide rather and intuitive motivation for the work, where only very basic context of previous research should be given.
3. When citing a website, standard citation apparatus should be used, unlike for example in Chapter 2. On the other hand, extensive citations of procurement law might not be needed in economic thesis.
4. The part *Corrective measures* omits to mention deposits, which indeed play vital role in motivation, especially in behavior of protesting entity. The rules of forfeiting the deposit indeed provide interesting explanations for some of party behavior, such as second instance appeals (as described by Ducháček, 2015 – thesis which however author could not be aware of).
5. Overview in Table 3.1 does not allow for Unsuccessful rulings in second instance, which seems quite confusing. From note this seems to be a methodological choice, which however again is not very understandable, nor well explained.
6. The motivation of OPC is briefly disputed in Chapter 4, without providing any evidence nor relevant argument for such assertion. Such statements should not be part of academic thesis

Recommended questions:

1. In 4.1 you mention paper, pointing out motivation for protests as obtaining competitive intelligence. This could be for example competitors bids, which should be made accessible, however the idea is not further elaborated. Could it explain some of your results?

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	20
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	30
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	30
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	25
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	95
GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Jiří Skuhrovec

DATE OF EVALUATION: 7.9.2015



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