

# Report on Master Thesis

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

<b>Student:</b>	<b>Bc. Amália Počarovská</b>
<b>Advisor:</b>	<b>PhDr. Mgr. Jana Gutiérrez Chvalková</b>
<b>Title of the thesis:</b>	<b>The Aspects of Collaborative Procurement: Centralization, Scope and Different Market</b>

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

The diploma thesis of Amalia Pocarovska is focused on the topic of public procurement in the Czech Republic, namely on the very interesting aspects related to identification to what extent is the public procurement influenced really influenced by centralization of the procurement activities. The main aim is to identify whether centralized procurement enhances the competition among bidders, which is understood in the literature as a proxy for efficiency of the process. The author has deployed a very deep-dive approach when analyzing the available data – which makes her work an unique contribution to the scientific literature in Czech Republic and in Europe.

The method that the author has chosen is firstly a very robust descriptive analysis of the available data including merging of various data sources, their manual cleansing and provision of various descriptive visuals at the beginning of chapter 6 of the thesis. For the testing of her 3 hypotheses, she has used the GLM and VGLM, which seem to be according to the available literature the right choice of model given the discrete nature of the explained variable and the overall structure of the available data set. For the market concentration analysis the author has used the Hirschman-Herfindahl index, which is also an appropriate method. I believe that for the purposes of this thesis the methods have been adequate, the only minor item I would say could have been done better is the explanation of the model specification.

The literature review conducted by the author as part of writing of the thesis is up-to-date and adequate for a master thesis. I think that the author has not skip any relevant published resource to the topic.

The manuscript form is adequate for a master thesis, without major flaws. My only minor objection is the conclusion, which in my opinion is not clearly linked to the tested hypotheses and should highlight better the very interesting and relevant findings of the author which might be used not only as basis for further research, but also as inputs for any future change of public procurement process in Czech Republic.

## **Summary and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense:**

**I recommend this thesis for defense with grade A. For the defense, I suggest that the author summarize her conclusions with link to her hypotheses – above all with hypotheses 1 (Synergy effect hypothesis) and 2 (Procurement scope hypothesis).**

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

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	30
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	26
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	20
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	16
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (max. 100 points)	<b>92</b>
<b>GRADE</b> (A – B – C – D – E – F)	<b>A</b>

**NAME OF THE REFEREE: Jana Gutiérrez Chvalková**

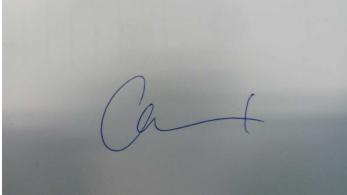
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**DATE OF EVALUATION:**

**January 21, 2018**



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**Referee Signature**

**EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:**

**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

**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

**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

**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	GRADE
91 – 100	A
81 - 90	B
71 - 80	C
61 – 70	D
51 – 60	E
0 – 50	F