Charles University
Faculty of Social Sciences

Report on the part of the master state examination
Record of the thesis defence

Academic year: 2020/2021

Student's name and surname:	Paul Kaspar Mainka
Year of birth:	1995
Student's ID:	75650712

Type of the study programme:	Master's (post-Bachelor)
Study programme:	Economics
Branch of study:	Master in Economics and Finance
Study Identification Number:	598004

Title of the thesis:	Financial Development and Wealth Inequality: A Panel Data Analysis
Thesis department:	Institute of Economic Studies (23-IES)
Language of the thesis:	English
Language of defence:	English
Advisor:	prof. Roman Horváth, Ph.D.
Reviewer(s):	Mgr. Jan Mareš, Ph.D.

Date of defence:	03.02.2021	**Venue of defence:**	Praha

Course of defence: The student made a good presentation of his thesis. The thesis addresses an important question about the association between wealth inequality and financial development. The student made an argument of why savings should have an impact on financial development and why financial development is a good proxy for savings. During the oral defense, the student showed awareness of the problems resulting from the endogenous nature of the relationship between the studied variables and he explained how he tried to address these challenges in his thesis. The author also provided a good discussion about the validity of the wealth inequality measure and he explained what robustness checks he performed. The thesis is very well written in good English and it is well structured. The student answered all questions rather well, demonstrated his knowledge of the topic, and showed critical, constructive thinking ability. The examination committee took into consideration the grade proposed by the supervisor and the opponent.

Result of defence: excellent (A)

Chair of the board: doc. PhDr. Adam Geršl, Ph.D. (present)   ....

Committee members: Jiří Novák, M.Sc., Ph.D. (present)   ....

      Mgr. Barbara Pertold-Gebicka, M.A., Ph.D. (present)   ....

      Ing. Vilém Semerák, M.A., Ph.D. (present)   ....