

Institute of Economic Studies

Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University Prague

Referee report on the Master Thesis submitted to State Exam

Student Name:	Mike-David Nicholas Burkhard
Thesis Supervisor Name:	Tomáš Cahlík
Thesis Title:	The Impact of the Swiss-EU Relationships on the Swiss Banking Secrecy

Overall Evaluation:

I have discussed with Mike his thesis quite often and all my comments up to the 5th chapter were incorporated into his text. We were not able to discuss the rest of his thesis, because of the deadline. One can see on the last three chapters the time pressure Mike was in – and this has negatively influenced his thesis.

The last three chapters ought to be the main part of his thesis, but at the end they are very short and do not cover the topic stated in the thesis title in satisfactory depths. I was expecting that Mike would work with some hard data as well, it was a disappointment for me that he based his conclusions on an anonymous interview.

I recommend this thesis for defense but I cannot suggest a better evaluation than C.

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for the explanation of categories and scale, please, see below):

CATEGORY	POINTS
Quality of Research	12
Clarity and Readability	8
Content/Quality of Ideas	15
Organization & Development	5
Manuscript Form	5
TOTAL POINTS	45
LETTER GRADE	C

(Signature – Thesis Supervisor)

Doc. Ing. Tomáš Cahlík, CSc.

Evaluated on: June 6, 2012

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Explanation of categories and scale:

QUALITY OF RESEARCH: The thesis demonstrates the author's full understanding and command of current literature and he/she uses it competently. The topic of the thesis is well structured and methods used are proper and relevant to the research question being investigated. A full and accurate analysis of thesis statement, from both a theoretical and applied perspective, is provided.

Strong			Middle			Weak			
30	27	24	21	18	15	12	8	4	0

CONTENT/QUALITY OF IDEAS: A range and depth of exposition; an appropriate sense of complexity of the topic; appropriate analysis of the thesis statement; and an accurate understanding of theoretical concepts is demonstrated. A full discussion of applicable and relevant theories stylized data is included. Original, creative thought is provided and evident. Demonstrates critical thinking and analysis with application of theory and student's ability to draw conclusions based on their knowledge, skills and research.

Strong			Middle			Weak			
40	36	32	28	24	20	15	10	5	0

ORGANIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT: The paper demonstrates a logical and clear arrangement of ideas; an effective use of transitions; a unity and coherence of paragraphs; and a clear development of ideas through supporting detail and evidence. The reader is successfully oriented to the subject, purpose, methodology, and structure of the report; an overview of the whole is included; the reader's attention and interest is engaged. The thesis statement is clearly and definitively stated without ambiguity. The conclusion is strong and reflective of the work as a whole.

Strong			Middle			Weak		
15	13	12	10	8	6	4	2	0

CLARITY AND READABILITY: Ease of readability; appropriate use of language and style for the rhetorical content; clarity of sentences (reader doesn't get lost; minimum need for slowing down or re-reading) is appropriately demonstrated. Professional level of English expression is evident (limited amount of non-native language to English translation is detectable).

Strong			Middle			Weak			
10	9	8	7	6	5	3	2	1	0

MANUSCRIPT FORM: The appropriate manuscript form and style for the rhetorical content; a professional image; an appropriate use of headings and sub-headings; an appropriate format for graphs and tables; an effective referencing of graphs and tables in the text; complete and accurate bibliography documented to support the applied research; and the overall impact of document design is considered.

Strong		Middle		Weak	
5	4	3	2	1	0

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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