

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Bc. Blanka Weyskrabová
Advisor:	PhDr. Wadim Strielkowski, Ph.D.
Title of the thesis:	Economic Aspects of Remittances and Migration: Case Study of Ukraine and the Czech Republic

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

The master thesis of Blanka Weyskrabová is focused on migration and remittances, in particular on the case of Ukrainian workers in the Czech Republic. It gives a general overview of migration from the point of the economic theory and discusses related characteristics and impacts of remittances. The author got a unique possibility to make use of the data collected by the UMP project. Even though the data sample is supposed to be a representative one it consists of 250 households only which might be considered insufficient. Analyzing Ukrainian workers in the Czech Republic makes perfect sense as they are the most important working minority in our country but the other way round, according to the data given, the point is questionable as the Czech Republic is not a popular destination for Ukrainian emigrants (CZ is preferred by only one of the Ukrainian's region) and they remit 7-9% of their income only. Nevertheless, the topic itself is very interesting, highly up-to-date and could be even labeled as "hot".

There were two hypotheses to be tested. First hypothesis concerns remittances, whether they are significantly determined by income, demographic characteristics and human capital of migrants. Second hypothesis looks into the way remittances are spent (consumption or productive spending; the productiveness of spending could have been explained in more detail). The analysis is very neat (Logit model, OLS) but its results are not really surprising.

In my point of view some general information about Ukraine as such is missing. On the other hand, the introduction into the nature of migration (and thus remittances) is very nicely done. The thesis itself is very well structured, „easy“ to read and the arguments are „easy“ to follow, the reasoning is clear. The thesis is written in English, unfortunately, it was not proof read by a native speaker (there are some spelling and grammar mistakes) and few other mistakes e.g. „Slovenia“ instead of „Slovakia“ (p.56) or „erase“ instead of „arise“ (p.55). However, these do not disturb the overall impression. The literature review is impressive.

Regardless the points mentioned above, the author definitely devoted a great amount of time to the research and did an extensive analysis of the problem in question. The thesis is definitely worth reading and contributes to the understanding of the current problem of immigrants in the Czech Republic. I **do recommend** this thesis to be defended. Grade suggested is without any doubt „**excellent**“.

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
Literature (max. 20 points)	20
Methods (max. 30 points)	26
Contribution (max. 30 points)	27
Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)	17
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	90
GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: PhDr. Petra Luňáčková

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Referee Signature

PhDr. Petra Luňáčková