

Opponent's Report on Dissertation Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague
Opletalova 26, 110 00 Praha 1, Czech Republic
Phone: +420 222 112 330, Fax: +420 222 112 304

Author:	Tomáš Havránek
Advisor:	doc. Roman Horváth Ph.D.
Title of the Thesis:	Meta-Analysis in International Economics
Type of Defense:	DEFENSE
Date of Pre-Defense:	April 18, 2013
Opponent:	Priv. Doz. Dr. Julia Woerz

Address the following questions in your report, please:

- a) Can you recognize an original contribution of the author? **Yes**
- b) Is the thesis based on relevant references? **Yes**
- c) Is the thesis defensible at your home institution? **Yes, easily so.**
- d) Do the results of the thesis allow their publication in a respected economic journal? **The thesis consists of three published articles, all three in very renowned and high-ranking journals.**
- e) Are there any additional major comments on what should be improved? **No**
- f) Were your comments raised at the pre-defense, addressed in the dissertation submitted to the regular defense? (The pre-defense report is enclosed below) **Yes, they were to the full extent.**
- g) What is your overall assessment of the thesis? (a) **I recommend the thesis to be defended without major changes;** (b) ~~The thesis is not defensible.~~

(Note: The report should be at least 2 pages long.)

Content of the Report:

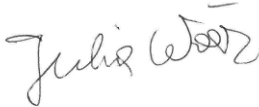
The dissertation thesis by Tomáš Havránek is of outstanding quality. All three opponents, including myself, have come to the same conclusion in their assessment prior to the pre-defense. For a more detailed discussion and appreciation of the thesis, I refer to my earlier pre-defense report from April 4, 2013. I would simply like to point out two aspects here:

First, the fact that the major chapters of this thesis have been published in very good, peer-reviewed academic journals shows that Mr. Havránek is already a well-respected member of the academic community. He has earned his reputation through his specialization on meta-analysis in the context of international trade, thus bringing an innovative method into an old economic field and scrutinizing previous findings in the literature. He has shown very convincingly that existing research results have to be re-thought and refined our knowledge about the trade effects of currency unions and the spillover effects from FDI. In both cases, his findings point towards more differentiated picture and lead directly into very relevant

policy conclusions. Thus, I would like to emphasize in this final report again Tomáš's ability to combine state-of-the-art methods with highly policy relevant questions and his success in deriving clear conclusions.

Second, I would like to stress that Tomáš responded very satisfactorily to the (few) comments that were raised by all three opponents. In doing so, he showed his ability to argue convincingly based on a sound knowledge of economics, economic policy and econometric methods.

Overall, I strongly recommend this thesis to be defended without any changes!
I wish Tomáš all the best for his future career, which I am sure will be a bright one and one that is rewarding for our community!

Date:	November 21, 2013
Opponent's Signature:	
Opponent's Affiliation:	Priv. Doz. Dr. Julia Woerz Oesterreichische Nationalbank and University of Innsbruck