

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Markéta Burianová
Advisor:	Petr Janský, M.Sc.
Title of the thesis:	Firms and Tax Havens: Evidence from the Czech Republic

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

Markéta Burianová aimed in her excellent thesis to provide a compact description of the phenomenon of tax havens in relation to the Czech Republic. The manuscript is very neatly written.

I believe that in most aspects Markéta's bachelor thesis is excellent. Nevertheless, here I identify some parts of the thesis that could be marginally improved. The description of the results is sometimes not analytical enough (for example, when describing what type of companies are more likely to be associated with tax havens). Markéta comments on the limitations of methods and therefore results, but this aspect could be further improved. The methods used are appropriate for the questions posed, but it is a pity that the data limitations (most importantly the extent of data available from the Magnus database) did not enable Markéta to apply more advanced empirical methods. Also, the introductory as well as policy recommendations part at the end could be improved, but are adequate for a bachelor thesis.

In terms of policy contribution, I consider this thesis to be one of the more relevant bachelor theses that I have seen at the Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague. This is because Markéta provides some of the first estimates of impact of tax havens on the Czech Republic. The estimates suffer from a number of methodological problems (also discussed in the thesis), but by being first of their kind they do offer a starting point and have the potential to support a useful debate on the role of tax havens in the Czech Republic.

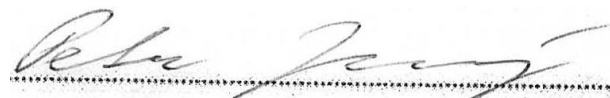
Markéta Burianová did an excellent job of writing a thesis. Therefore I recommend an overall grade of **excellent (výborně, 1)**.

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

CATEGORY		POINTS
<i>Literature</i>	<i>(max. 20 points)</i>	18
<i>Methods</i>	<i>(max. 30 points)</i>	22
<i>Contribution</i>	<i>(max. 30 points)</i>	30
<i>Manuscript Form</i>	<i>(max. 20 points)</i>	20
TOTAL POINTS	<i>(max. 100 points)</i>	90
GRADE	(1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Petr Janský, M.Sc.

DATE OF EVALUATION: 10th June, 2013



Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

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

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

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

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 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