

# Report on Master Thesis

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

<b>Student:</b>	<b>Brenda Solís Gonzáles</b>
<b>Advisor:</b>	<b>Jaromir Baxa</b>
<b>Title of the thesis:</b>	<b>Global Spillover Effects from Unconventional Monetary Policy During the Crisis</b>

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

This thesis presents an attempt to quantify the effects of unconventional monetary policy actions of advanced countries on emerging countries in Latin America. Hence, the author rises interesting research questions: the effects are not self-evident prior analysis as there are more channels through which the unconventional monetary policy of advanced countries could affect the emerging economies in Latin America and elsewhere.

The author utilizes the framework of global VAR (GVAR), which is quite suitable for this analysis, however command of this technique is relatively challenging task. Despite this complexity, the author has been able to cope with these difficulties relatively well. Her work contributes to the current literature in two ways: First, the most current data are used, second, the author covers not only the effects of unconventional monetary policy of the U.S., but also of the U.K. and Japan.

The work with the literature is excellent. The author provides solid overview of the main unconventional monetary policy actions and of most of the papers that are focused on the international dimension of this policy. Also, the methodology of global VAR is described nicely.

I'm a bit critical to the section 5 where the results are presented. The impulse response functions don't look really nice and for the reader, it is quite difficult to find out, what is the main message that could be derived (mainly because the left and right vertical axis have different position of zero points). Although the description of the results is quite ok, nice impulse responses would provide nice illustration to the main arguments pointed out in the main text.

Anyway, given the amount of time that is available for writing diploma thesis, the methodology used here and the fact that I'm not evaluating research paper submitted to some solid journal, I think these limitations of this work could be considered as minor.

For the defense I recommend to discuss policy implications of the results.

In case of successful defense I would rather award the thesis with **grade A**.

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

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	20
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	26
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	26
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	10
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (max. 100 points)	<b>82</b>
<b>GRADE</b> (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	<b>1</b>

**NAME OF THE REFEREE:** Jaromír Baxa

**DATE OF EVALUATION:** September 15, 2015



**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	<b>1</b>	= excellent	= výborně
61 – 80	<b>2</b>	= good	= velmi dobře
41 – 60	<b>3</b>	= satisfactory	= dobře
0 – 40	<b>4</b>	= fail	= nedoporučuji k obhajobě