

Assessment of Master Thesis – Academic Consultant



Study programme: **International Economic Relations**

Field of study: **International and Diplomatic Studies**

Academic year: **2013/2014**

Master Thesis Topic: **European imbalances and the debt crisis in Europe**

Author's name: **Alexandra Razumnova**

Ac. Consultant's Name: **Ing. Pavel Hnát, Ph.D.**

Opponent: **Ing. Josef Bič, Ph.D.**

	Criterion	Mark (1–4)
1.	Overall objective achievement	3
2.	Logical structure	2
3.	Using of literature, citations	3
4.	Adequacy of methods used	3
5.	Depth of analysis	3
6.	Self-reliance of author	2
7.	Formal requirements: text, graphs, tables	3
8.	Language and stylistics	2

Comments and Questions:

Master's thesis by Alexandra Razumnova deals with important and relevant issue with relatively high demands on theoretical as well as analytical work. Even though it offers number of interesting points and conclusions its overall quality was markedly influenced by inadequate timing that author dedicated to initial literature review as well as to the thesis itself. As a result several weak points of the thesis were not improved despite it would have been doable, theoretical part does not fully correspond to the analysis itself, and formal and stylistic qualities of the thesis are far below expectations. Even though I positively evaluate number of relevant sources of statistical data, thesis often relies on sub-par and inadequate resources too. Charts and tables offer a lot of important viewpoints but they are only rarely fully used to support author's conclusions; as a result own contribution by the author is often hard to recognize. **In spite of above written assessment, I do recommend the thesis for defense and in case of its positive progress, I recommend the thesis to be evaluated by grade good.**

Following questions could be used during the defense:

1. Define the role of euro in the build-up of European Imbalances and Debt Crisis. Was euro a cause, trigger or rather a catalyst? Why?
2. Describe the recent Macroeconomic Imbalance Procedure of the European Union. Which indicators are most relevant in your opinion, which should be added (if any)?

Conclusion: The Master Thesis is recommended for the defence.

Suggested Grade: **3**

Date: 23. 05. 2014

Ing. Pavel Hnát, Ph.D.
Academic Consultant