Assessment of Master Thesis –
Academic Consultant

Study programme: **International Economic Relations**
Field of study: **International Business - Central European Business Realities**
Academic year: **2016/2017**
Master Thesis Topic: **The Czech Republic: European Integration and the Development of Trade Structure**
Author's name: **Tobias Ibsen Christensen**
Ac. Consultant's Name: **Ing. Pavel Žamberský, Ph.D.**
Opponent: **doc. Ing. Josef Taušer, Ph.D.**

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

Comments and Questions:

It is not easy to evaluate Tobias's thesis. He has shown his potential here, big part of which remained unused especially due to formal shortages.

Introduction should include the objective, research questions, methodology and structure. Actually, the first chapter can be considered to be an introduction. The objective and research questions are reasonable. There should be 20th century used instead of 19th in the introduction. Actually, in 19th century Czech Republic (nor Czechoslovakia) didn't exist.

Second chapter devoted to international trade theories shows again some strange shortages. For example, the theory of factor proportions belongs to neoclassical theories. Moreover, the theories of imperfect markets and economies of scale are usually called new trade theories. Although, author has proven solid knowledge and understanding of these theories, he hardly could come up with something new in theoretical field.

I appreciated empirical research based on data and author's calculations. The findings are relevant and interesting. Unfortunately, the thesis seems to be too short. Normally, it should have at least 60 pages. Even if we used so-called normative pages, there would be some pages missing.

All in all, this thesis could serve as a very good base for an excellent diploma thesis. However, there are too many formal shortcomings included which could be easily detected in case of at least some collaboration of the student with the supervisor.

Questions:

1. How would evaluate dependence of the Czech Republic on motor vehicles exports. Should we do something about it to diminish it relevance in the future?

2. What are shortcomings of Balassa index?

Conclusion: The Master Thesis is recommended for the defence.

Suggested Grade: **2**

Date: 09/12/2016

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Ing. Pavel Žamberský, Ph.D.
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