Assessment of Bachelor Thesis – Opponent

Study programme: **International Economic Relations**
Field of study: **International Business**
Academic year: **2017/2018**
Bachelor Thesis Topic: **Chinese Investments and Trade in Central Asia**
Author's name: **Khairina Mamadamonova**
Ac. Consultant's Name: **doc. Ing. Ludmila Štěrbová, CSc.**
Opponent: **Ing. Ilya Bolotov, MBA, Ph.D.**

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

Comments and Questions:

The bachelor thesis attempts to conduct a serious analysis of the Chinese-Central Asian economic relations and of China's interests in the region. The author meticulously narrows the topic, defines her goals and methodology, which are then applied in the first two chapters of the thesis. However, by the end of the thesis, the level of analysis somewhat deteriorates and conclusion becomes very shallow without proper summarization and evaluation of the research question. Personally, I admire the high research potential of the work, uncommon to most bachelor theses. But since the research was not carried out properly till the end, I recommend this bachelor thesis for defense with the final grade **very good**. The author could, however, improve the result at the defense if the weak parts of the analysis were explained properly and the questions were answered in detail.

Questions for the defense of the final thesis:
1. What are the incentives for Chinese investment in Central Asia? It was not very clear from the text what was meant by them.
2. Could Central Asia host Chinese industry, if the "East Asian giant" was to outsource part of her production capacities (for example, because of ecological concerns), and integrate into the global value chains as manufacturing countries? Much like China did in the 1990s — early 2000s? Please, support your answer.

Conclusion: The Bachelor Thesis is recommended for the defence.

Suggested Grade: **2**

Date: 17/05/2018

Ing. Ilya Bolotov, MBA, Ph.D.
Opponent