Assessment of Bachelor Thesis – Opponent



Study programme: International Economic Relations Field of study: International Business Academic year: 2017/2018 Bachelor Thesis Topic: Post-Soviet space in the context of Mutual Economic Relations Author's name: Martin Slavík Ac. Consultant's Name: Ing. Ilya Bolotov, MBA, Ph.D. Opponent: doc. Ing. Ludmila Štěrbová, CSc.

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

Comments and Questions:

The BT is aimed at assessing economic development of post-Soviet countries and their position within international trade. The structure of the BT is supporting the mentioned goal, but it is, however, not well designed and based on it, the author was not in a position to avoid redundancies and an abuse of details provided. It is quite a pity, as it is clear that the author devoted much effort to his work. Nevertheless, more coherent and compact text would have help to increase the level of the BT. From the perspective of the goal, the author included in the BT too many details and information that are not relevant to it. For example, what is the relevance of a general information about the establishment of the EU or Schengen area? (btw, the terminology used in this part is not correct, for example the EU candidate or associate countries should not be called Applicant countries, etc.). Or how the explanation of the Harmonized System relates to the BT? A positive feature of the BT is that the author used very many interesting statistical data and proved to be able to take correct conclusions from them. From the formal point of view, however, the majority of the tables included in the text should have been in the Annex, as they follow one after another, surpass one page and are not very much broken by an explanatory text. Another aspect that does not support the added value of the BT are the titles of the individual chapters and subchapters. They are confusing and mislead the reader - for example, what we can imagine under Individual and Financial Movement? The author should have devoted also much more efforts to the formal finalization of the BT, for example the format of the Table of Content is not corresponding to what it should be. Questions: 1. Which country from the region suffered the most economically after the split of the Soviet Union? 2. How would you assess the dependence of some post-Soviet countries on the importation from the RF and what consequences such a dependence can have for the economic and political development?

Conclusion: The Bachelor Thesis is recommended for the defence.

Suggested Grade: 2