

## REVIEW OF THE BACHELOR'S THESIS SUPERVISOR

Student's name: Krystel Bankole .....

Thesis title: Factors influencing the economic growth in Benin.....

Name of the thesis supervisor: Tomáš Frömmel.....

	1	2	3	4
<b>Assessment of the topic itself</b> (irrespectively of the student):				
1.1 To what extent is the topic current and significant?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2 How challenging is the topic in respect of theoretical knowledge?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3 How challenging it in respect of practical experience or fieldwork?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4 How difficult is it to get background materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Verbal assessment (several sentences), in particular:**

*Subsection 1.1:* The topic may seem to be not significant from the Czech perspective, but it is surely important to recognize the key determinants of economic growth of developing countries.

*Other (as appropriate):*

### **2. Evaluation of the thesis structure and logical cohesion:**

2.1 To what extent is the thesis structure logical and transparent?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.2 To what extent does the author use current / suitable sources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.3 How properly did the author select methods in respect of the topic?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.4 How sufficiently and functionally did the author use in the thesis original charts, tables, data, annexes, etc.?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.5 What is the compatibility level for the thesis basic line elements: topic – thesis assignment – objective – structure - conclusions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Verbal assessment (several sentences), in particular:**

*Subsection 2.1:* The thesis structure is mostly clear and logical.

*Subsection 2.5:* The compatibility is fulfilled.

*Other (as appropriate):* The topic of economic growth has been broadly discussed in many economic papers, the author should use and cite more of them (and focus especially on papers from JSTOR).

### **3. Assessment of the thesis text quality:**

3.1 How well – in terms of depth and quality – did the author analyze the topic?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2 Did the author formulate the thesis objective clearly and with logical structure?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- |  |                          |                                     |                                     |                          |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3.3 Did the author fulfill the defined thesis objective and approved assignment of the thesis that contains the objective? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4 How well – in terms of depth and quality – did the author cover the theoretical part of the thesis?                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.5 How well – in terms of depth and quality – did the author cover the practical / analytical part of the thesis?         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.6 To what extent are the thesis conclusions logically structured and show quality, and what is their added value?        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Verbal assessment (several sentences), in particular:**

*Subsection 3.2:* The objective is formulated clearly in the abstract.

*Subsection 3.3:* This objective was fulfilled only partly (see below).

*Subsection 3.4:* The theoretical part is weak and suffers from several problems. Firstly, the author presents many numbers about the economy of Benin that are probably not necessary for a reader and that are not easy to read. Secondly, without indicating whether she speaks specifically about Benin or about economic growth in general, the author continues with discussion of some drivers of economic growth. It seems that these factors are chosen rather randomly, without any further context (i.e. the Solow model is mentioned, but the author does not further discuss neither saving rate nor technological progress as drivers of economic growth). Finally, the author should cite and discuss more relevant literature (especially from JSTOR) since the topic of economic growth has been broadly covered by both theoretical and empirical literature.

*Subsection 3.5:* The practical part suffers from several problems as well. The main problem is low number of observations combined with high number of explanatory variables. Secondly, the author indicates the presence of multicollinearity in her model but does not solve this issue anyhow. Further, the author indicates the presence of heteroskedasticity and runs heteroskedasticity-corrected regression (without explaining what is meant by heteroskedasticity correction); after that, although there were just small changes in coefficients estimates and their standard errors, Adjusted R-squared increased from 19% to 91% which seems weird. Finally, discussion and comparison of the author's results with existing literature should be more elaborate.

*Subsection 3.6:* The author's effort is appreciable, but her thesis suffers from many problems mentioned above that decrease the added value of the thesis.

*Other (as appropriate):*

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**4. Assessment of the thesis form and style:**

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|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4.1 What is the formal layout of the thesis?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.2 What is the quality of citations and references? Are sources identifiable?                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.3 What is the stylistic level of the thesis, particularly the use of correct economic terminology? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Verbal assessment (several sentences), in particular:**

*Subsection 4.2:* List of references should have unified style.

*Other (as appropriate):* The whole thesis is not easy to read since the author often uses long and complicated sentences. There are many grammatical errors in the thesis.

*Instructions for the review: Author of the review must provide verbal assessment for the specified subsections, which are pivotal for the thesis assessment, particularly for the defense; therefore, the assessment must have reasonable explanatory power.*

*Note: Classification method: 1 = exceptional, 2 = very good, 3 = good, 4 = failed.*

**5. Overall assessment** (*It is necessary to state, whether the thesis meets the requirements of the Methodology of the Faculty of Economics in terms of the quality of contents, scope and formal requirements, whether the thesis is/is not recommended for defense. It may also be nominated for a special award, etc.*):

Despite my critique, the thesis meets the requirements for bachelor thesis and I recommend it for defense.

**6. Questions and remarks to the defense:**

As mentioned in the theoretical part, Benin has high share of informal economy. In such case, how reliable are official statistics about GDP, unemployment, etc.?

**Proposed grade : Good**

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018

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Signature of the Thesis Supervisor