

# Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

<b>Student:</b>	<b>Tereza Michálková</b>
<b>Advisor:</b>	<b>Doc. Julie Chytilová, PhD</b>
<b>Title of the thesis:</b>	<b>Determinants of Induced Abortion in Selected European Countries</b>

## **OVERALL ASSESSMENT** (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

*Please provide your assessment of each of the following four categories, summary and suggested questions for the discussion. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.*

### **Contribution**

In her thesis, Tereza Michálková aims to study socio-economic determinants of abortions in European countries. This is an interesting and important research question. Previous literature provided some evidence on this topic, however, the studies typically focus on a specific country or on a specific explanatory variable (or a limited set of variables). Tereza contributes to this literature by providing a more complex analysis for 15 European countries, by studying a relatively larger set of explanatory variables, and by studying the most recent data. This makes a nice contribution for a bachelor thesis. The research question and contribution are clearly formulated and the thesis is clearly written and well organized.

### **Methods**

The first part of the thesis provides an overview of the existing literature on the topic. In the main part of the thesis, Tereza first describes the dataset she has put together from various sources in order to be able to study various explanatory variables. Then, she analyzes the panel data and to do so she uses standard and appropriate statistical and econometric methods. Tereza first aims to test whether she replicates the findings of the previous literature by controlling for the variables used in previous research, and in the next step she controls for a set of additional variables which she considers as potentially important for the decision-making about abortion.

### **Literature**

The thesis provides a useful overview of the existing studies focusing on various socio-economic determinants of abortion rates in different countries. The literature review section is clearly structured, though somewhat short, and Tereza seems to have a sound knowledge of the relevant literature. The results are also discussed in the context of the findings of the existing studies.

### **Manuscript form**

The thesis reads well and is written in good English.

### **Summary and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense**

To sum up, I believe the thesis fulfills the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, and suggest grade A.

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**SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED** (for details, see below):

CATEGORY	POINTS
Contribution (max. 30 points)	28
Methods (max. 30 points)	28
Literature (max. 20 points)	16
Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)	20
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (max. 100 points)	<b>92</b>
<b>GRADE</b> (A – B – C – D – E – F)	<b>A</b>

**NAME OF THE REFEREE:** Julie Chytilová

**DATE OF EVALUATION:** May 28, 2020



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**Referee Signature**

**EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:**

**CONTRIBUTION:** *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
30	15	0

**METHODS:** *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
30	15	0

**LITERATURE REVIEW:** *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
20	10	0

**MANUSCRIPT FORM:** *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
20	10	0

**Overall grading:**

TOTAL	GRADE
91 – 100	A
81 - 90	B
71 - 80	C
61 – 70	D
51 – 60	E
0 – 50	F