REPORT ON MASTER THESIS
CENTER FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

STUDENT:	Egor Iankov
ADVISOR:	Byeongju Jeong
TITLE OF THE THESIS:	Economic Growth in European Regions: Divergence within Convergence

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

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

CONTRIBUTION:

The thesis conducts a series of exercises measuring the convergence-divergence within EU regions. The results are interesting enough. One interesting result is that the regions may be diverging in one method but converging in another method despite that the two methods are basic and widely used.

METHODS:

The methods are standard with some adaptations.

LITERATURE:

The existing literature was reviewed in sufficient details.

MANUSCRIPT FORM:

There are some errors in presenting the exercises conducted. Egor ran out of time and did not have time to improve on the materials added near the submission deadline.

SUMMARY AND SUGGESTED QUESTIONS FOR THE DISCUSSION DURING THE DEFENSE:

The thesis looks overall reasonable for an MA thesis.

It could be useful to ask Egor to explain the different results under different methods. In particular, the contrast of divergence when variance is used and convergence when regression is used mentioned above. My guess is as follows. Imagine two regions with the initial income gap of 10 percent. The initially poorer region grows faster than the initially richer region overtaking the latter and the income gap becomes 20 percent. The two regions

diverged by variance but converged by regression. Generally, the difference in results under the two methods would be present when there are temporary regional shocks.

Please indicate whether you recommend the Thesis for defense or not.

I recommend the thesis for defense.

TEXT ORIGINALITY CONTROL

I confirm that I acquainted myself with the report on the originality of the text of the thesis from

[ ] Theses   [x] Turnitin   [ ] Ouriginal (Urkund)

Comments on the reported results:

Looks reasonable.

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED *(for details, please see the page 3)*

CATEGORY		POINTS
Contribution	*(max. 30 points)*	25
Methods	*(max. 30 points)*	25
Literature	*(max. 20 points)*	20
Manuscript Form	*(max. 20 points)*	15
TOTAL POINTS *(max. 100 points)*		**85**
GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)		**B**

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Byeongju Jeong

DATE OF EVALUATION: August 31, 2022

Lee Jeong

_____

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.

Strong	Average	Weak
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.

Strong	Average	Weak
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.

Strong	Average	Weak
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.

Strong	Average	Weak
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