

CHARLES UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE
Faculty of Social Sciences
Institute of International Studies

PROTOCOL ON DIPLOMA THESIS ASSESSMENT
(Supervisor)

Name of the student: Yinka Adenuga

Title: Determinants of African Migration: The Nigerian Experience in The Czech Republic

Supervisor: Ondřej Klípa

1. TOPIC AND OBJECTIVE (short information on the thesis, research objective):

The aim of the thesis is to examine the Nigerian migration to the Czech Republic. It focuses on motivations and factors influencing this migration, as well as on challenges the Nigerian migrants face in the destination country. It also studies level of unity and cohesion among the Nigerians. In other words, whether the Nigerians in Czechia forge a unified diaspora identity or exist as distinct entities.

2. CONTENT (complexity, original approach, argument, structure, theoretical and methodological backing, work with sources, appropriateness of annexes etc.):

The author has chosen a very suitable topic that is generally underexplored and to which he has exclusive access as a member of the studied community. The author has demonstrated the ability to work with scholarly literature, effectively utilize scientific theories, and conduct independent research. Regarding theories, he primarily employs the standard “push” and “pull” factors and also diaspora theories. The main research method is interviewing respondents. I also appreciate a solid process tracing regarding the sampling and other parts of the research.

The author is capable of defending the relevance of the chosen topic. The structure of the work is standard. All the important parts typical of a thesis are included. It would be beneficial to better develop the literature review, which currently seems more like an introduction to the theoretical part rather than a critical assessment of the sources. As an appendix to the thesis, the author includes a list of interview questions and annotations for each respondent. The appendices are entirely appropriate.

3. FORMAL ASPECTS AND LANGUAGE (quality of language, citation style, graphics, formal aspects etc.):

I have no major reservations regarding the formal aspects and language. The language style is coherent and clear. Citation style is correct. However, in cases of in-text references, I would recommend using not only “author, year”, but also concrete page. It would make the sources (and the information based on them) much more reliable.

4. STATEMENT ON THE ORIGINALITY OF THE THESIS

The thesis was checked. No plagiarism has been identified.

5. SHORT COMMENTS BY THE REVIEWER (overall impression, strengths and weaknesses, originality of ideas, achievement of the research objective etc.):

The thesis is generally well-written, although the chosen topic is generally not very innovative and the theories or methods used are not particularly sophisticated. However, the thesis correctly identifies the need to understand the reasons behind the migration of Nigerians to the Czech Republic, as they constitute the largest group from sub-Saharan nations here. At the same time, traditional migration networks and a strong diaspora that would stimulate further migration are lacking. Moreover,

Nigerians face a significant language barrier. Therefore, a strong reason must exist to motivate migration to the Czech Republic, which is worth examining.

Given that the topic is still relatively unexplored, high degree of descriptiveness in the work can be forgiven. However, it would be beneficial to better define the research problem that the author intends to investigate. While the author addresses several interesting questions that fill the "gaps" in knowledge about Nigerian migration to the Czech Republic, a problem grounded in the literature and of significance beyond the studied case is not entirely clear in the work.

The thesis, however, brings several noteworthy findings, especially regarding the role of Czech higher education (its stability, quality, and financial accessibility) as one of the main "pull" factors.

Several of the author's claims would require clarification, which is related to the above-mentioned overly general citations (missing page numbers). For example: "The 2015 European migration crisis prompted a more stringent migration approach (Stojanov,2022), with the Czech Republic being among the first to close its borders (Wintour, 2018)."

The author should also add a critical commentary to some of the data from the interviews, ideally with references to relevant literature. For example: "Because of their experience during communism, if you talk to foreigners, you go to jail or they question you. So they try to avoid foreigners altogether."

The work would undoubtedly benefit greatly from being a comparative case study. This could show, for example, whether certain manifestations of racism or the strong language barrier are typical only for the Czech Republic or if Nigerians experience them to the same extent in other countries. However, this is a requirement beyond the scope of the author's capabilities.

6. COOPERATION WITH THE SUPERVISOR (communication with the supervisor, ability to reflect comments, shift from the original intention, etc.)

The author actively consulted with the thesis supervisor throughout the course of the research and writing process. The supervisor's comments were taken into consideration, and the author's work showed significant progress.

7. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS THAT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED DURING THE DEFENCE:

In the thesis, you describe the remarkable role of church communities as a cohesive element for a diaspora that otherwise lacks strong civic organizations. Under the conditions of the diaspora, does this lead to the rapprochement and cooperation of the Christian and Muslim segments of the Nigerian community?

When selecting your research sample, you contacted individuals primarily from religious community centers. Does this present any limitations for your findings? Are there other places in Prague where it would be possible to find additional Nigerian respondents?

8. (NON-)RECOMMENDATION AND SUGGESTED GRADE:

B/C according to the defense

Date:

Signature: