

Name of the student:	Jo-Hsuan Chuang
Title of the thesis:	Europe's Incoherent Attitudes toward Taiwan: Does the Dragon's Shadow Still Linger?
Reviewer:	Joan Miró (UPF)

1. KNOWLEDGE AND CONNECTION TO THE FIELD

(relevance of the research question, research objective, literature review):

The literature review is comprehensive but precise, i.e. very good (when necessary, it draws from primary sources).

The thesis identifies an interesting research gap in the literature, which in addition is both academically and politically/socially relevant. The research question naturally flows from the identification of this gap.

2. ANALYSIS

(methodology, argument, theoretical backing, appropriate work with sources):

The presentation of the theoretical framework is accurate, with the author delving into some particular aspects of Interdependence Theory that are particularly useful given the research question. The research design is well-grounded in the theoretical framework, while the operationalisation of the different variables is convincing and justified in detail. The rationale for developing a negative binominal regression model is explained in a convincing manner.

3. CONCLUSIONS

(persuasiveness, link between data and conclusions, achievement of research objectives):

I find the main finding of the thesis, on the key relevance of not only FDI inflows but also historical trajectories, interesting and convincing. In the conclusions the author provides some insights on the political relevance of the research for decisionmakers as well as she also shows awareness of the limitations of the research.

4. FORMAL ASPECTS AND LANGUAGE

(appropriate language, adherence to academic standards, citation style, layout):

The formal aspects of the thesis and the writing style are accurate. Only a minor point: a very few sentences lack a reference (for instance, the one on Macron in the first paragraph of the introduction, or the one on realism in page 19). But these lacking references do not affect the key passages of the text.

5. SUMMARY ASSESSMENT

(strong and weak point of the dissertation, other issues)

I think this is an excellent thesis that achieves good results in all components of the thesis in a satisfactory manner.

Grade (A-F)	A - UPF scale: 9
Date	Signature
27/06/2024	

Classification scheme

Percentile	Prague		Krakow		Leiden		Barcelona	
	91-100 %	8,5%	5	6,7%	8,5-10	5,3%	9-10	5,5 %
B (81-90)	81-90 %	16,3%	4,5	11,7%	7,5-8,4	16,4%	8-8,9	11,0 %
C (71-80)	71-80 %	16,3%	4	20%	6,5-7,4	36,2%	7-7,9	18,4 %
D (61-70)	61-70 %	24%	3,5	28,3%			6-6,9	35,2 %
E (51-60)	51-60 %	34,9%	3	33,4 %	6-6,4	42,1 %	5-5,9	30,1 %

Assessment criteria:

Excellent (A): 'Outstanding performance with only minor errors';
 Very good (B): 'Above the average standard but with some errors';
 Good (C): 'Generally sound work but with a number of notable errors';
 Satisfactory (D): 'Fair but with significant shortcomings';
 Sufficient (E): 'Performance meets the minimum criteria';
 Fail: 'Some/considerable more work required before the credit can be awarded'.