Report on **Bachelor Thesis**

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

Student:	Emily Slorup
Advisor:	Matej Opatrny MSc., Ph.D.
Title of the thesis:	Does the Type of School Financing Impact Student Performance? – International Comparison based on PISA Dataset

OVERALL ASSESSMENT:

Short summary
The author analyzes the effect of government funding on secondary school performance based on the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) test scores in mathematics, science, and reading. The database covers school-level datasets for five years (2006, 2009, 2012, 2015, and 2018) from 79 countries and regions. Using OLS, FE, and RE regressions, the author shows the statistically significant relationship between government funding and test scores in mathematics, science, and reading. Moreover, the author underlines that this relationship is diminishing and non-linear.

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

Methods
The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. However, the OLS method is redundant in the study and could be omitted as this method does not add value to the thesis.

Literature
There is an overview of the existing literature on the topic. Additional details that could explain differences and/or similarities in results could be helpful in understanding the existing literature.

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.

Overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

The thesis definitely fulfills the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, I recommend it for the defense and suggest a grade A.
The Turnitin report shows 16% overall similarity which does not indicate significant similarity with other available resources.

The recommended questions for the defense:
1. How do results differ for countries with different income levels (developing, middle-income, high-income)?
2. On which level are standard errors clustered in your study and what is the reason for it?

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
Contribution (max. 30 points)	30
Methods (max. 30 points)	30
Literature (max. 20 points)	17
Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)	20
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	**97**
GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)	**A**

NAME OF THE REFEREE:

DATE OF EVALUATION:

Digitally signed by Evgeniya Dubinina.
Date: 26.8.2024 23:56