

# Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

<b>Student:</b>	<b>Janovská, Zuzana</b>
<b>Advisor:</b>	<b>PhDr. Mgr. Votápková, J. Ph.D.</b>
<b>Title of the thesis:</b>	<b>Social Determinants of Early Retirement</b>

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

*Please provide a short summary of the thesis, your assessment of each of the four key categories, and an overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.*

### **Short summary**

This thesis explores how social factors, especially the presence of a living parent, affect early retirement decisions. Through logistic regression analysis of data from the SHARE dataset, the research compares the likelihood of early retirement among individuals in the Czech Republic, northern Europe, and southern Europe. The findings reveal significant regional differences, with the presence of a living parent increasing the likelihood of early retirement in the Czech Republic and southern Europe, while decreasing it in northern Europe.

### **Contribution**

The thesis provides important insights into retirement decision-making by examining the role of family dynamics, particularly the presence of a living parent. The cross-regional comparison sheds light on cultural and social variations in retirement behavior, making this work a notable addition to the existing body of research.

### **Methods**

The use of logistic regression is well-suited for the binary nature of the dependent variable (early retirement). The methodology is thoroughly applied, with clear justification for the choice of models and variables. The inclusion of robustness checks and interaction effects adds to the credibility of the findings. However, the thesis would benefit from a more in-depth discussion of the data and methodological limitations.

### **Literature**

The thesis reflects a strong grasp of the relevant literature, offering a detailed review of prior studies on the determinants of early retirement. The author successfully integrates the literature into the analysis, drawing meaningful connections between the study's results and existing theories. Expanding the literature review to include more recent research on the impact of caregiving on retirement decisions would strengthen this section.

### **Manuscript form**

The thesis is well-organized, with a logical structure of chapters and sections. The writing is generally clear and to the point, though certain areas could benefit from more precise language and clearer explanations of complex ideas. The figures and tables effectively support the analysis, and the bibliography is thorough and correctly formatted.

### **Overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense**

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Overall, this thesis meets the standards required for a bachelor's thesis at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University. I recommend it for defense and suggest a grade of B.

Suggested questions for the defense:

1. Can you discuss the potential limitations of using logistic regression for your analysis and how these might have impacted your results?
2. How might your findings change if greater emphasis was placed on other social determinants like income or education?
3. What policy recommendations can be drawn from your findings to enhance retirement planning and support in the regions you studied?

*The results of the Turnitin analysis do not indicate significant text similarity with other available sources. Turnitin shows a score of 21%, which normally can be considered a sign of possible plagiarism. However, a more attentive analysis of the text in my opinion did not reveal signs of plagiarism.*

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

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<i>Contribution (max. 30 points)</i>	25/30
<i>Methods (max. 30 points)</i>	27/30
<i>Literature (max. 20 points)</i>	16/20
<i>Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)</i>	16/20
<b>TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)</b>	<b>34/100</b>
<b>GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)</b>	<b>B</b>

**NAME OF THE REFEREE: Alessandro Chiari**

**DATE OF EVALUATION: August 29, 2024**

*Alessandro Chiari*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Referee Signature**

Please sign the report electronically using one of the following options:

- Certified electronic signature
  - Adobe digital signature
  - Writing „Digitally signed“, the date and your name above „Referee Signature“
  - In any case, your name has to be typed, the signature cannot include a scanned picture of your hand-written signature.
- Two examples are here:

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Ladislav  
Kristoufek

Digitally signed by  
Ladislav Kristoufek  
Date: 2020.08.05  
15:14:49 +02'00'

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*Then submit the report to SIS. There is no need to deliver a signed hard copy of the report.  
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**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.*

**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.*

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

**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 grading:**

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