

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Daniel Kolář
Advisor:	Ing. Semerák, V. M.A., Ph.D.
Title of the thesis:	Repealing NAFTA: The impact on international trade with focus on Mexico

OVERALL ASSESSMENT:

Contribution: The author's main contribution is quantifying the repeal of NAFTA in terms of changes in tariffs rates: going from NAFTA to Most Favourable Nation tariffs. The performed analysis works well to estimate the impact of the NAFTA repeal. Although I believe that the macroeconomic implication of such event could be covered a bit deeper: the author discusses mostly GDP and investment, while other factors like labour market are insufficiently spread light on. Also, I find the conclusion section relatively short. Nevertheless, I consider Author's contribution to be a strong one and adequate for a Bachelor Thesis.

Methods: The Author uses appropriate methodology for analysis of implications of trade agreement – the Computable General Equilibrium Model, more exactly, GTAP model. In my opinion the choice of the model is correct, especially as it works with a global database that is updated periodically by a network of researches. The Author is using only tariffs changes as a policy change result. Although I consider that it is highly unlikely that the repealing of NAFTA will only affect trading tariffs, I understand that such an assumption (with the explanations provided in section 4) is sufficient for a research for a Bachelor Thesis.

Literature: The literature review is comprehensive, and allows a good introduction in the matter even for a reader outside this field. The background of NAFTA and its implications and sufficiently presented. The methodological part of the thesis is well documented as well. Unfortunately the thesis does not refer to some of the most recent studies in this field (ie Ciuriak, Dan, et al. "Quantifying the Termination of NAFTA." (2017) or Liu, Jonathan. "The Economic Impacts of a US withdrawal from NAFTA: A CGE Analysis." Undergraduate Economic Review 14.1 (2017): 14.)

Manuscript form: The manuscript form looks very academic, is facilitating easy reading and navigation of the paper, and is satisfying the requirements towards a Bachelor Thesis format.

Summary and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense:

In case of a successful defence, I recommend grade „A“.

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Contribution (max. 30 points)</i>	28
<i>Methods (max. 30 points)</i>	26
<i>Literature (max. 20 points)</i>	18
<i>Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)</i>	20
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	92
GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)	A

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Alina Cazachevici

DATE OF EVALUATION: 04.06.18



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.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
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.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
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.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
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.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
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