

OPPONENT'S OPINION OF BACHELOR THESIS

Study programme: International Territorial Studies
Department: Ústav regionálního rozvoje a veřejné správy (FRRMS)
Author of thesis: Sabína Sameková
Name of thesis: Textile and clothing industry - salvation or curse of developing countries - the case of Bangladesh
Supervisor of thesis: Mgr. Tomáš Krejčí
Opponent of thesis: Ing. Ivo Zdráhal, Ph.D.

TYPE OF DIPLOMA WORK: applied

ASSESSMENT OF THESIS: (always add verbal comments)

1. COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIRED ASSIGNMENT:

The required assignment is fulfilled only partially. There are some problems regarding the goals of the thesis, methodology and operationalization of the studied issues:

- 1) Methodology - the thesis is affected by the author's subjectivity and normativity. It seems that the author had set her "Desired conclusions" before the beginning of the writing-process. Due to this starting position, the arguments are chosen very selectively.
- 2) The author fails to provide a method and the indicators used for an analysis of textile industry in Bangladesh.

2. WORK WITH ACADEMIC LITERATURE:

The author works with relevant academic sources of literature. As mentioned above, the main problem is that the author fails to provide a balanced view of the discussed issues. Therefore, she picks out only some selective ideas that are analysed in a broader context in the literature.

3. CONTENT LEVEL OF WORK:

The topic discussed in bachelor thesis of Sabína Sameková is very contemporary and very sensitive. The human rights of workers in many developing countries are considered as a very important issue. I also appreciate the enthusiasm of the author. Unfortunately, there are problems in terms of the contents. I have mentioned some problematic parts already. Some other problems are:

- 1) The issues discussed in chapter 4.1 International Trade Policy in Developing Countries does not comply with the title of the chapter. In terms of theory, the author does not state relevant arguments regarding this section.

2) I also consider to be problematic the chapter 4.1.1. - Economics aspects of the Textile and Clothing industry in DC. and the chapter 4.1.2 Social aspects of the Textile and Clothing Industry in DC. Logically, these chapters should provide a background that would be used for further analysis of the situation in Bangladesh. It is surprising that the author did not work with the theory of global production networks and concept Upgrading/Downgrading by Garry Gereffi because the works of Garry Gereffi are in her list of literature.

3) A case study of textile industry in Bangladesh is very unsatisfactory. It is rather a collection of different authors' opinion about what is wrong there. The author of the bachelor thesis does not describe the contemporary situation precisely. The positive contributions of the textile sector are neglected. What is missing are a) well-defined economic, social, and environmental indicators, b) a detailed analysis of the discussed issues based on these indicators in order to explain both positive and negative effects of the textile sector on the development of Bangladesh.

4. FORMAL LAYOUT:

This bachelor thesis meets the usual standards of academic text, there are few less serious language and graphic deficits.

SPECIFIC REMARKS AND COMMENTS ABOUT THE THESIS:

1) The bachelor thesis of Sabína Sameková is clearly based on the Marxist paradigm and a group of Marxism-influenced approaches (most probably, this paradigm is used only intuitively as the author does not identify herself with Marxism in her methodology chapter) - What are the limits of these approach in terms of epistemology?

2) What methods could be used to judge the role of this industry in regional development? Can the author clearly explain both positive and negative effects of textile industry in regional development of Bangladesh?

DEFENSE OF THESIS: recommended

FINAL CLASSIFICATION PROPOSAL: E

Date: 13.6.2014

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Signature of oponent