

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR'S REFERENCE

Program:	MIB
Student:	Valeria Kostyan
Title of thesis:	Comparative analysis of entrepreneurial intentions among students: evidence from GUESSS project

Justification of the topic choice. Accuracy in defining the aim and objectives of the thesis. Justification of the topic choice; accuracy in defining the aim and tasks of the thesis; originality of the topic and the extent to which it was covered; alignment of the thesis' topic, aim and objectives.

Master thesis of Valeria Kostyan is devoted to the very important topic on students' entrepreneurial intentions and entrepreneurial spirit among students from different institutional settings. The main research question was defined as "Do entrepreneurial intentions and attitudes differ among students from different economic groups?" It should be noted that there is a lack of research on student entrepreneurship in emerging economies and thus one could conclude that this topic is quite new in this field of research.

Structure and logic of the text flow. Logic of research; full scope of the thesis; alignment of thesis' structural parts, i.e. theoretical and empirical parts.

Structure of master thesis is designed to achieve the goal stated. There are four chapters in the paper. The first part includes the literature review concerns the evolution of research on student entrepreneurship and premise of research in this field. The author analyzed the different perspectives in student entrepreneurship research and the main findings on this topic. The deep analysis of the previous findings allowed the author to develop her original approach to analysis the stages of evolution in this field. The second part of the paper consists of theoretical framework which author developed based on the different theoretical perspectives explaining the entrepreneurial intentions among students. The third part includes research methodology and hypotheses development and the fourth part provides the main findings of the research. The rigor methodology allows the author to make relevant and reliable conclusions and provide very interesting results of the research in the discussion and conclusion parts of the paper.

Quality of analytical approach and quality of offered solution to the research objectives. Adequacy of objectives coverage; ability to formulate and convey the research problem; ability to offer options for its solution; application of the latest trends in relevant research are for the set objectives.

Valeria has formulated research questions in the proper and accurate way. The research problem was defined as an entrepreneurial attitude formation among students from two different contexts: efficiency- and innovation-driven economies. The relevance of the research is connected with the conceptualization and systematization of the studied phenomena of student entrepreneurial intentions as one of most effective lever of entrepreneurship activity development. It should be noted that this study is one of the first research on this topic in Russia based on GUESSS dataset. In order to meet objectives author applied the latest publications in the student entrepreneurial intention research field and developed original theoretical model.

Quality of data gathering and description. Quality of selecting research tools and methods; data validity adequacy; adequacy of used data for chosen research tools and methods; completeness and relevance of the list of references.

Valeria uses quantitative approach in the empirical part which includes development of the model and hypotheses which then were tested by statistical methods of analysis. The deductive approach is relevant for this particular type of study. The quality of data is proven by data collection procedure developed by GUESSS project organizers. Also the author provides the description of the data analysis procedure in the adequate way

<p>which allows trusting the results of the empirical analysis. References include recent publications on relevant topic; both foreign and Russian sources of information were used.</p>
<p>Scientific aspect of the thesis. Independent scientific thinking in solving the set problem/objectives; the extent to which the student contributed to selecting and justifying the research model (conceptual and/or quantitative), developing methodology/approach to set objectives.</p>
<p>The theoretical part includes the deep literature analysis and allows author to develop research questions in appropriate way. The methodological and empirical parts of the research include all necessary elements of the good scientific paper in business studies. Author demonstrates the ability to both analyses of the existing literature and synthesis main findings in order to provide her own ideas in this field.</p>
<p>Practical/applied nature of research. Extent to which the theoretical background is related to the international or Russian managerial practice; development of applied recommendations; justification and interpretation of the empirical/applied results.</p>
<p>The results of the study have both theoretical and practical implications. From the theoretical perspective, this study extends the growing body of student entrepreneurship literature by developing original theoretical model and examining this model in two different settings – innovation-driven and efficiency-driven economies. As for practical implication, the results suggest which factors should be taken into account in developing special programs for stimulating entrepreneurial activity in different countries.</p>
<p>Quality of thesis layout. Layout fulfils the requirements of the Regulations for master thesis preparation and defence, correct layout of tables, figures, references.</p>
<p>Layout fulfils the requirements of the Regulations for master thesis preparation and defense, all tables and figures are given in the appropriate way.</p>

The Master thesis of Valeria Kostyan meets the requirements for master thesis of MIB program thus the author of the thesis can be awarded the required degree.

September 24, 2012.

Research advisor

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