

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR'S REFERENCE

Program:	Master in Management
Student:	Hu Yiming
Title of thesis:	DIASPORA-ENGAGEMENT INSTITUTIONS AND HOMELAND FIRMS' INTERNATIONALIZATION

<p>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.</p> <p>The thesis topic choice is justified by the rising research interest to the role of diaspora-engagement institutions (DEIs) in the field of international management studies. The topic choice is also due to the international professional experience of the student.</p> <p>The originality of the thesis lies in applying the dynamic capabilities framework for studying the DEIs role in homeland firms' internationalization.</p> <p>The thesis provides an original study on the example of Chinese DEIs services in Russia.</p>
<p>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.</p> <p>The thesis has a classical academic structure. The theoretical and empirical parts of the thesis are well aligned.</p> <p>The qualitative study methodology is well adapted to the thesis objectives. However, the text flow can be perfected to sharpen the argumentation.</p>
<p>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.</p> <p>The thesis intends to make a contribution to the literature on the role of dynamic capabilities in process of firms' internationalization. The research questions are convincingly justified by the student.</p>
<p>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.</p> <p>The thesis is based on qualitative research. Although the use of case method is justified, the thesis is relatively short on explaining the data analysis methods.</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>Although the student faced numerous challenges with meeting the thesis development deadlines, the thesis generally meets the applicable criteria for qualitative research model justification.</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 thesis topic is related to relevant managerial problems related to firms' cooperation with diaspora-engagement institutions. Although, the recommendations provided by the student are not sufficiently actionable.</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>The thesis layout is generally in line with the standards, although some minor drawbacks are noticeable (i.e. pagination is absent, style of references is not homogeneous).</p>

Originality of the text. All sources of match identified by the Safe Assign system follow the allowed cases, the paper does not contain any elements of plagiarism.

The thesis text is original and does not contain elements of plagiarism (text originality 95,4%).

The Master thesis of **Hu Yiming** meets the requirements for master thesis of MIM program thus the author of the thesis can be awarded the required degree.

Date: 16.06.2021

Scientific Advisor: PhD, Asc. prof. Olga Garanina

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Olga Garanina', is positioned below the text of the scientific advisor.