

## SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR'S REFERENCE

<b>Program:</b>	Master in Management (MIM)
<b>Student:</b>	Khamidullina Anna
<b>Title of thesis:</b>	Determinants of Migrant Entrepreneurship: the Case of Russophone Migrant Entrepreneurs in Canada

**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.

The aim of the thesis is to formulate the drivers of migrant entrepreneurship by studying the case of Russophone migrant entrepreneurs in Canada. The topic of the study is highly relevant in modern globalized world. This research contributes both to the theory by expanding our understanding of migrant entrepreneurship phenomenon and to the practice by providing us with knowledge how to support migrant entrepreneurs.

**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.

The structure of master thesis is consistent. All the parts of the study are interrelated and contribute to the thesis goal's achievement. The thesis starts with thorough literature review, uncovering main theoretical approaches to the studied topic. It proceeds with methodology description representing author's deep understanding of the research logic. The discussion of findings provides us with explanation of Russophone entrepreneurs motives to start their business in Canada and highlights the role of formal and informal institutions for migrant's business. At the end there is a well-written part of theoretical contribution, practical implications, research limitations and future research directions.

**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.

To achieve research objectives qualitative approach was chosen. Based on the theory and literature review the research gap was identified and theoretical framework was developed. The interview-based study method was applied to address the research problem. Chosen analytical approach fully corresponds to the thesis objectives.

**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.

In-depth interviews with Russophone migrant entrepreneurs from Canada were conducted. Nine semi-structured interviews provided insights on migrant's story, personal traits, motivation to start business abroad and the role of formal institutional support in Canada as well as informal institutions such as Russophone diaspora. Collected data were coded and analysed using Gioia methodology. Several stages data analysis provides research validity and reliability. Thanks to the cases the richness of the cultural context was covered. The list of references is complete and relevant.

**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.

The ability to define research objective and to justify research methodology is demonstrated by the author. Chosen methodology contributes to our understanding of factors that determine migrants' motives to start business abroad. The thesis identifies the set of pull factors motivating migrant entrepreneurship among

them personal traits of entrepreneurs, institutional environment of the host country and cultural background of migrants. The role of the Russian language was also uncovered.

**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.

Results of the study provide recommendations for policymakers as well as migrants aiming to start their business. The recommendations to policymakers include both developing direct institutional support to migrants and providing favourable inclusive environment indirectly.

**Quality of thesis layout.** Layout fulfils the requirements of the Regulations for master thesis preparation and defence, correct layout of tables, figures, references.

The paper is formed and designed according to the required standards.

**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 text is original and doesn't contain elements of plagiarism. The percentage of original text is 95,96%.

The Master thesis of Khamidullina Anna meets the requirements for master thesis of Master in Management program thus the author of the thesis can be awarded the required degree.

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Scientific Advisor:  
assistant professor, PhD  
Liubov A. Ermolaeva

