

## SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR'S REFERENCE

<b>Program:</b>	Master in International Business
<b>Student:</b>	Kormiltseva Polina
<b>Title of thesis:</b>	Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in Russia: Effect on the Value Relevance of Financial Reporting

<p><b>Justification of the topic choice. Accuracy in defining the aim and objectives of the thesis.</b> 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 master thesis is devoted to a very actual topic of adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in Russia.</p> <p>The topic is very actual from the point of view of current research from two perspectives – academic perspective and business perspective.</p> <p>The topic relevance can be considered as high due to current trend of great interest to adoption of IFRS in different emerging markets, especially in Russia. There is almost no empirical research in the sphere devoted to Russian companies, that is why the following master thesis can be of great interest for Russian and international scientists and practitioners.</p>
<p><b>Structure and logic of the text flow.</b> Logic of research; full scope of the thesis; alignment of thesis' structural parts, i.e. theoretical and empirical parts.</p> <p>The text consists of several parts – theoretical and empirical. Both parts are closely aligned. The thesis is structured in a logical way. Particular attention is paid to analysis of IFRS adoption in emerging countries. The question of Russian accounting policy and IFRS application for Russian companies is analysed in details. Empirical part of the thesis starts with a substantial methodology description and is followed by analysis of the findings in accordance with the structure of theoretical part of the thesis. The sample is comprised of 67 companies that have voluntary adopted IFRS.</p>
<p><b>Quality of analytical approach and quality of offered solution to the research objectives.</b> 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 objectives are presented in the proper way. The research problem is properly formulated. The research findings and their interpretation provide a substantial contribution to the sphere of IFRS adoption in Russia. The author provides his own point of view on the research question and while preparing the literature review.</p>
<p><b>Quality of data gathering and description.</b> 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 Sample consists of 67 companies that adopted IFRS prior to the year 2006. The data is adequate for further research. All the necessary methodological information is included in the thesis.</p> <p>The list of references consists of up-to-date literature and includes the recent findings on the topic from peer-review academic journals.</p>
<p><b>Scientific aspect of the thesis.</b> 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>Polina has showed a good example of analytical thinking and research work by conducting the study and developing managerial application. Research methods are well justified and research results are correlated with the goal and objectives of the study.</p>
<p><b>Practical/applied nature of research.</b> 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>One of the goals of the research was to provide external users of financial reporting with recommendations concerning the following question: reporting under which standard (RAS or IFRS) provides more value</p>

relevant information. In order to achieve these goals the main hypothesis was formulated and tested. The results are new and valuable as the empirical research like this has not been executed earlier. The research has a very high applied importance for both academics and practitioners.

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

The layout fulfils the requirements of the Regulations for master thesis preparation and defence. All the tables, figures and references are prepared in the proper way.

The Master thesis of Polina Kormiltseva meets the requirements for master thesis of Master in International Business program thus the author of the thesis can be awarded the required degree.

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Scientific Advisor:

*Candidate Degree in Economics*

*Senior Lecturer,*

*Tatiana A. Garanina*

