

MASTER THESIS REVIEW

Author: Radvilė Bankauskaitė

Thesis: High-Skilled Female Migration and Gender Equality - Study of migration of highly educated women from Central and Eastern Europe

Reviewer: Simone Bertoli

Content

The thesis submitted by Radvilė Bankauskaitė represents an empirical investigation (through the estimation of gravity models) of the determinants of gender-specific flows of high-educated migrants from CEE countries. She was very passionate about this topic (being a tertiary educated Lithuanian migrant herself), and the topic of her thesis was perfectly in line with the internship that she did. The empirical work rests on a very thorough knowledge of the relevant strands of literature, and on the collection of a rich dataset

Literature and references

The thesis includes a very good coverage of the relevant literature, spanning across different disciplines. This rich material has been well organized by Radvilė in her thesis.

Formal requirements

Formal requirements have been met. I particularly appreciate the transparency related to sharing the .dta and .do file that allow a reviewer to reproduce the results.

Topics for discussion

I think that Radvilė could be tested on the theoretical foundations of the gravity equation that she brings to the data (I was impressed by her ability to explore this strand of literature, which is rather technical). She should also be asked to explain her findings about the role of gender inequality measures at destination in shaping the distribution of the migration flows of high-skilled women.

Overall evaluation and proposed grade

Radvilė demonstrated to be a very clever and motivated student. She always respected the various deadlines that I had set, and she was always very professional during our exchange (email and Zoom). I think that she represents the best profile for this interdisciplinary master: ability to deal with papers from different disciplines coupled with a more in-depth mastering of a specific field (quantitative economic analysis). I do recommend the thesis for defense with grade 16/20 (but I have no comparison with other theses submitted by GLODEP students).



Date: 17th June 2020