

KARLOVA UNIVERZITA V PRAZE
Fakulta sociálních věd
Institut politologických studií

Master's Thesis Assessment

AUTHOR: Antonio Piras

TITLE OF THE THESIS: *THE SOCIOECONOMIC GAP BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH ITALY. A LONG STORY WITHIN AN OLD POLITICAL FRAMEWORK.*

ASSESSED BY: Lada Šušlíková, IPS FSV

ASSESSMENT TYPE: Opponent

1. ASSESSMENT OF THE THESIS CONTENT

ASSESSMENT CATEGORIES	MARK
Relevancy of the topic in relation to the current scientific knowledge	1
Originality of the thesis, contribution to the science subject field	1
Integrity and scale of sources and literature relevant to the subject study	1
Ability for critical appraisal of the sources	1
Standards of working with sources	2
Methodology and its relevancy to the subject study and thesis goals	1
Logic of the thesis structure	1
Ability to argue, cohesion and coherence of the argument	1
Terminology in the relevant field	1
Adhesion to the citation norm	2
Language, stylistic and formal standard of the thesis	2

COMMENTARY:

The thesis of Mr. Piras is a well-written study of socioeconomic differences between Southern and Northern Italy. Due to different historical development, the socioeconomic level of these areas is very different. While the northern area is a high level in industry and agriculture, the South at a high level in industry and agriculture, the South was among the least developed areas of Western Europe.

The text is dividend into three main chapters. The first one introduces the main theories concerning the North-South duality (for example the influence of the family structure or culture,

the form of government etc.). The following chapters analyze the situation in Italy. Author starts with an informative and fact-based chapter, which presents an important background on the theme and then presents deep analysis of this problem.

I appreciate that a wide range of sources is used and the choice of topic, which is very original and up-to-date.

In general, I consider the thesis to be of a good standard but I have some comments, objections to work with resources, formal occasions and stylistic standard. For example the following.

In the Bibliography - for each book is missing ISBN and number of pages.

Very often lack the resources page number - i.e. the source is mentioned, written, but no page number of the relevant source.

On page 28 (see *GDP variation in % of Italian Regions*), there is named a source „Censis 2008“, but not the origin of this resource or the address or location where you can find it.

In the text, there are extra spaces between lines (e.g. see foot-notes p. 8, 13 and 19).

Sometimes an Internet source is underlined (e.g. see foot-notes p. 32), sometimes not (e.g. foot-notes p. 27, 30).

Very often is missing the point sentence in foot-notes (e.g. see foot-notes 1, 6, 21, 24, 30, 32, 44.....).

Strange lines with divided words on page 18.

Sometimes footnotes are aligned to the block, sometimes not - and even on one page (see e.g. foot-notes 79 and 81 on page 38).

One is the word X in the footnote in italics, not once not (e.g. p. 35).

Where are the foot-notes number 76-77 on page 36 and 118-119 on page 52?

What does mean the word „DEMACRATIZATION“ on page 17?

2. QUESTIONS FOR THE DEFENSE

1. Do you see a visible difference in the approach to this problem and especially the results of solving this problem between leftist and rightist governments of the Second Italian Republic?
2. What do you think, which other European country has a similar problem, a different level - maturity between different regions or areas and how this issue is resolved there?

3. SUGGESTED MARK

While I put forward few critical points, I consider the text achieves a good standard. Therefore, I suggest to mark the thesis **excellent** - výborně (1).

Date: 07/06/2010

Signature: