

Review of Master work reviewer

Name and Surname of Student	Leon Karl-Heinz REIMANN
Qualification Work Title	L'Eurodistrict Strasbourg - Ortenau : Mise en place, missions, fonctionnement, résultats
Name and Type of Study Programme	Regional and European Project Management / Navazující
Faculty / Department	Ekonomická fakulta / KRM
Supervisor	Ulbert Jörg, Dr.
Reviewer	prof. Dr. Nadine Rentel

Thesis evaluation

1. Importance and difficulty of the topic 1.5

Note: As the author of the Masters thesis writes, the Eurodistrict Strasbourg - Ortenau has already been studied in numerous studies. However, the innovative character of the study results form his specific research interest.

2. Logical structure of the thesis 1.5

Note: The author explains the functioning of cross-border cooperation in general before focusing on his selected geographical context. The detailed presentation of the history helps to understand the newest developments he writes about.

3. Fulfillment of objectives 1.0

Note: Based on the document analysis, completed by the interview data, the author succeeds to discuss new tendencies of the cross-border cooperation critically.

4. Methodological approach 2.0

Note: It would have been helpful to explain the methodological approach more in detail, as there is no specific chapter dedicated to that question, just some remarks in the introduction. How do the interview and the literature review interact?

5. Assessment of theoretical and/or practical contribution of the thesis 1.0

Note: The specific role of the selected cross-border cooperation, especially its historic context, become very clear. The comparison with the perspective of a person involved helps to contrast theory and practice.

6. Handling of literature 1.5

7. Formal aspects 1.0

Conclusion

Thesis evaluation (note): **excellent**

I recommend the thesis for defence: **YES**

Questions and comments

Critical comments and overall contributions, total value of the thesis

The author points out that the Eurodistrict cooperation has already been the subject of various

research projects. However, he identifies his specific research interest in focusing on the newest tendencies and in highlighting, at the one hand, what makes that type of cooperation so specific, and, on the other hand, how it could be seen as model for other cross-border cooperations. What is furthermore specific of his analysis is the detailed presentation of the historic context, having an impact on nowadays functioning.

The methodological approach of combining a detailed document review with interview data is promising as it enables the researcher to analyse to which extent the theoretical framework of the cross-border cooperation is applied in practice. However, there is a lack of detailed information concerning the methodological approach. It would have been helpful for the reader to know why the author completes the document analysis by an interview, and why he has chosen that specific type of interview. The interview results could have been discussed more in detail, but in general, the reader gains relevant insight into the interplay between theoretical implication/the goals of the cross-border cooperation and the perspective of a person involved in that cooperation.

The structure of the thesis is very good, with the author starting with general notions of cross-border cooperation, then focusing on his selected geographical and political context and putting an accent of the historical context.

Based on his analysis, the author identifies and formulates suggestions for improvement for the future strategy of the cross-border cooperation.

The relevance of the chapter "Choix de la bibliographie" does not become quite clear. Perhaps it would have been better to declare it as "state of the art"?

Questions and topics for discussion before the commission

Could you explain your methodological approach more in detail? How did you establish the categories?

How do you define "scientific publications" (see the chapter "choix de la bibliographie")? What are the criteria for a publication to be scientific?

Do you think that an interview analysis, based on more interviewees, would have an impact on the suggestions for improvement?

Do you think that some of the strategies you worked out would also be relevant for other geographical and/or political context of cross-border cooperation?

Date: Aug 22, 2023

Signature of reviewer