

Postgraduate student: **Tien Phat Pham**

Thesis: **Effect of the Fintech Industry on Bank Performance:
Case Study from Vietnam”**

Opponent: **Juraj Sipko**

1. The aim of the thesis

The technological evolution has a significant impact on development of the financial sector. Therefore, the topic of the thesis holds importance in current events. The author describes the main goal of the thesis as: “The Effect of the Fintech Industry on Bank Performance: A Case Study from Vietnam”.

The thesis defined three research objectives. Here, I would like to note that instead of the three research goals, I would like to see one main goal and two partial goals. In addition, three relevant research questions are presented in the thesis. For a very comprehensive research analysis, there are clearly formulated hypotheses that help in reaching the main goal.

2. Applicability of methods and methodology

In the thesis, various types of methods were applied: logical-historical, analytical-synthesis, as well as comparative methods. The thesis within the methodology presents a quantitative study of how financial innovations have an impact on bank performance, including on stock return and efficiency.

The author used a significant and extraordinary amount of literature related to this very dynamic development of financial innovation and its impact on performance in the banking industry.

3. The analytical approach

I highly appreciate the analytical approach used in the thesis. The analytical part of the thesis is its highlight. Since financial innovation is at the beginning of its development, the presented methodological approach will further be developed.

4. Scientific contribution and originality of the work

The main contribution of the thesis is a comprehensive analysis of fintech development and its impact on bank performance and stock returns, including efficiency.

In line with the title of the thesis, the key contribution of the work is what we can learn from the implementation of technological innovation in the banking sector. Since the scope, and pace of this development does not have borders, the presented approach could

be considered as an original contribution to this unpredictable fast development in the banking industry.

5. The thesis and its outcome for research and education

The outcome of the thesis would be useful for pedagogical purposes, not only for an undergraduate, a graduate, but also for postgraduate students, as well as for the banking industry, including competent authorities in Vietnam.

Based on the unpredictable development of financial innovation, there is space for some open questions relevant to fintech and its impact on the banking industry.

6. Questions & Suggestions

1. The financial innovation evolution process is very beneficial, if it is used for services for everybody. But at the same time, there are risks related to e.g., cyber attacks.

What is the author's opinion on cyber attacks and how to face the potential risk of fraud in the banking sector in Vietnam in line with fintech?

2. Currently, a majority of central banks around the globe are preparing for the introduction by central banks of digital currency (CBDC), including the central bank in Vietnam.

Explain how the process of digitization will impact bank performance, return on stocks, including efficiency, in line with the process of introducing a digital dong.

3. In the industrial sector, a very important contributing factor on performance is the total factor of productivity.

Explain how to measure the productivity in the banking industry under the current on-going process of digitization ?

4. Technological innovation in the financial sector with the introduction of the distributed ledger technology / blockchain.

Explain how the distributed ledger technology/blockchain will have an impact on the performance of the banks in Vietnam, including on the return of stocks and on efficiency.

5. Conclusion

I found the quality of the thesis relatively very high, including broad based literature relevant to the presented highly interesting topic of current dynamic development of financial innovation in the banking industry in Vietnam.

Under the current conditions for a postdoctoral study, the author fulfills all necessary requirements for this kind of study.

The author in his thesis provides adequate research and based on quantitative analysis, he demonstrates his ability to formulate qualified conclusions.

Based on a comprehensive assessment and the presented results I would like **to recommend the thesis of Mr. Tien Phat Pham for a defense.**

After its successful defense, I would like **to recommend for Mr. Tien Phat Pham the title „doctor“ (philosophie doctor, abbr. PhD).**

Bratislava, January 28th, 2023



Juraj Sipko

