

## HABILITATION THESIS REVIEWER'S REPORT

### Masaryk University

#### Applicant

Ing. Vilém Pařil, Ph.D.

#### Habilitation thesis

The sustainable transport system and policy design in metropolitan context: environment facing transport or vice versa?

#### Reviewer

Prof. Germà M. Bel Queralt, Ph.D.

#### Reviewer's home unit, institution

Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Barcelona

The trajectory of Dr. Vilém Pařil shows a remarkable interdisciplinary research effort, based on economics and transport, and which also extends to geography and environmental issues. This interdisciplinary approach to research is clearly stated in the introductory part of Dr. Pařil's habilitation thesis, e.g., when he states as his core research question: "whether the synergy of innovative development of transportation systems reflecting varying passenger preferences can be achieved through rational transportation policy while minimising conflicts with the environment following the principle of minimising negative externalities."

The academic publication that the candidate contributes to the literature clearly reflects both the interdisciplinary effort and the quality of the contributions. I was able to see no less than nine articles published in journals included in web of science. This goes far beyond the strict requirement for habilitation. These articles have been published in different sectors (economics, geography, transport, and environment), and four of them are included in the first two quartiles of the corresponding sector. Among these, I think the *Journal of Transport Geography* article (although short, valuable, and interesting) and the *Journal of Cleaner Production* article are worth mentioning specifically. Likewise, his most cited article - so far - in the *Prague Economic Papers* -, makes an outstanding contribution, within Economics. Beyond the impact of the journals, it can also be seen that the influence of Dr. Pařil in the literature is growing, as evidenced by the 83 citations recorded in Web of Science, with a clearly increasing trend in recent years. Again, the citations that he has received are far beyond the requirements for habilitation.

I think it is also necessary to mention the growing internationalization of the cooperation of Dr. Pařil. I was able to witness it myself, while he spent several months (winter-spring 2023) as a visiting researcher at the Observatory for the Analysis and Evaluation of Public Policies (OAP of the University of Barcelona), hosted by Dr. Daniel Albalade, a well-known and recognized scholar in transport economics.

### Reviewer's questions for the habilitation thesis defence:

1) About methodologies: I like the fact that Dr. Pařil usually investigates topics with relevant political implications. I wonder if he plans to get into quasi-experimental techniques (such as Dif-in-Dif), particularly useful for policy evaluation.

2) I saw that the article in *European Planning Studies* gives some superficial consideration to tourism. Given that the (potential) negative externalities of tourism are becoming an increasingly controversial topic in both academic and policy debates, and given their direct connection to the economy, transport and environment, I wonder if Dr. Pařil intends to delve into this issue.

## **Conclusion**

The habilitation thesis entitled *The sustainable transport system and policy design in metropolitan context: environment facing transport or vice versa?* by Ing. Vilém Pařil, Ph.D. **fulfils** requirements expected of a habilitation thesis in the field of Economic Policy.

Date: 29 August 2023

Signature: