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**THE DETERMINANTS OF FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN
ASIAN COUNTRIES**

NUR HIDAYAH BINTI SUKERY



UUM
Universiti Utara Malaysia

**MASTER OF SCIENCE FINANCE
UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA
2017**

**THE DETERMINANTS OF FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN
ASIAN COUNTRIES**

**By
NUR HIDAYAH BINTI SUKERY**



UUM
Universiti Utara Malaysia

**Research Paper Submitted to
School of Economics, Finance and Banking,
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in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the
Master of Science (MSc) Finance**



**Pusat Pengajian Ekonomi,
Kewangan dan Perbankan**

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, FINANCE, AND BANKING

Universiti Utara Malaysia

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ABSTRACT

FDI is an investment from the international organizations and individual investors in the host countries to acquire the control on the invested firms and return. In theory, FDI stimulates economic development and improve the well-being of societies. The objectives of this study are to determine the effect of economic growth, inflation, exchange rate, interest rate and financial development on FDI inflows in 26 Asian countries for the duration of 16 years (2000 to 2015). The dependent variable is the FDI net inflows meanwhile the independent variables are economic growth, inflation, exchange rate, interest rate and financial development. This study finds a positive link between financial development and FDI inflows in the 26 Asian countries. This implies that a sound financial development would allow easier accessibility to the international financial market and thereby attract more foreign investors in the domestic financial system, hence improves the FDI inflows in the host country. Moreover, inflation has found to accelerate the FDI inflows while higher economic growth dampens the level of international funds flowing into the host countries. In addition, this study discovers that exchange rate and interest rate are not significant in influencing the inflows of FDI. Thus, this study will assist the policy makers in improving and monitoring the current regulations on the FDI inflows.

Keywords: FDI Inflows, Economic Growth, Inflation, Exchange Rate, Interest Rate, Financial Development.

ABSTRAK

FDI adalah pelaburan dari organisasi antarabangsa dan pelabur individu di negara tuan rumah untuk memperoleh kawalan ke atas syarikat yang dilaburkan dan pulangan. Secara teori, FDI merangsang pembangunan ekonomi dan meningkatkan kesejahteraan masyarakat. Objektif kajian ini adalah untuk mengkaji kesan pertumbuhan ekonomi, inflasi, kadar pertukaran, kadar faedah dan pembangunan kewangan ke atas aliran masuk FDI di 26 negara Asia untuk tempoh 16 tahun (2000 hingga 2015). Pemboleh ubah bergantung adalah aliran masuk bersih FDI sementara itu pembolehubah bebas adalah pertumbuhan ekonomi, inflasi, kadar pertukaran, kadar faedah dan pembangunan kewangan. Kajian ini mendapati hubungan positif antara pembangunan kewangan dan aliran masuk FDI di 26 negara Asia. Ini menunjukkan bahawa pembangunan kewangan yang kukuh akan mempermudah akses ke pasaran kewangan antarabangsa dan dengan itu menarik lebih banyak pelabur asing dalam sistem kewangan domestik dan meningkatkan aliran masuk FDI di negara tuan rumah. Tambahan lagi, inflasi telah ditemui dapat mempercepat aliran masuk FDI sementara pertumbuhan ekonomi yang tinggi dapat melemahkan tahap dana antarabangsa yang mengalir ke negara-negara tuan rumah. Di samping itu, kajian ini mendapati bahawa kadar pertukaran dan kadar faedah bukanlah penentu aliran masuk FDI. Oleh itu, kajian ini akan membantu penggubal undang undang dalam memantau undang undang semasa mengenai aliran masuk FDI.

Kata kunci: Aliran masuk FDI, Pertumbuhan Ekonomi, Inflasi, Kadar Pertukaran, Kadar Faedah, Pembangunan Kewangan.

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TABLE OF CONTENT

DECLARATION	I
PERMISSION TO USE	II
ABSTRACT	III
ABSTRAK	IV
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	V
TABLE OF CONTENT	VI
LIST OF TABLES	X
LIST OF FIGURE	XI
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	XII



CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Overview of FDI in Asian Countries	4
1.3 Issues and Problem Statement	6
1.4 Research Questions	8
1.5 Research Objectives	8
1.6 Significant of the Study	9
1.7 Scope of the Study	9
1.8 Structure of the Study	9
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	10
2.1 Introduction	10
2.2 Theory Related to FDI	10
2.3 Determinants of FDI	11
2.3.1 The Impact of Economic Growth on FDI	11
2.3.2 The Impact of Inflation on FDI	15
2.3.3 The Impact of Exchange Rate on FDI	18
2.3.4 The Impact of Interest Rate on FDI	19
2.3.5 The Impact of Financial Development on FDI	21
2.4 Conclusion	22
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	23
3.1 Introduction	23
3.2 Data Description	23
3.3 Definition of Variables	24
3.3.1 Dependent Variable (FDI Net Inflows)	24
3.3.2 Independent Variables	24
3.3.2.1 Economic Growth	25
3.3.2.2 Inflation	25
3.3.2.3 Official Exchange Rate	26
3.3.2.4 Interest Rate	26

3.3.2.5 Financial Development	27
3.4 Research Framework	28
3.5 Econometrical Methodology	29
3.5.1 Descriptive Analysis	29
3.5.2 Correlation Analysis	29
3.5.3 Panel Data OLS	30
3.5.4 Diagnostic Test	31
3.5.4.1 Multicollinearity Test	31
3.5.4.2 Heteroscedasticity Test	31
3.5.4.3 Auto-correlation Test	31
3.6 Conclusion	32
CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS AND ANALYSIS	33
4.1 Introduction	33
4.2 Descriptive Analysis	33
4.3 Correlation Analysis	35
4.4 Pooled OLS Regression	36
4.4.1 Economic Growth	37
4.4.2 Inflation	37
4.4.3 Exchange Rate	38
4.4.4 Interest Rate	38
4.4.5 Financial Development	39
4.5 Diagnostic Tests	39
4.5.1 Multicollinearity Test	39
4.5.2 Heteroscedasticity Test	40
4.5.3 Auto-Correlation Test	41
4.6 Conclusion	42

CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	43
5.1 Introduction	43
5.2 Summary of Findings	45
5.3 Policy Implication	46
5.4 Contribution of the Study	47
5.5 Limitations and Directions for the Future Research	47
5.6 Conclusions	48
REFERENCES	49
APPENDIX A	55
APPENDIX B	57
APPENDIX C	57



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LIST OF TABLES

3.1	<i>Data Description</i>	27
4.1	<i>Summary of Descriptive Analysis</i>	34
4.2	<i>Pearson Correlation Matrix</i>	35
4.3	<i>Results for Pooled OLS and Corrected-Panel OLS</i>	36
4.4	<i>Results for Multicollinearity</i>	40
4.5	<i>Results for Modified Wald Test</i>	41
4.6	<i>Results for Woolridge Test</i>	41



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LIST OF FIGURE

3.1 *Theoretical Framework*

28



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation		Meaning
FDI	=	Foreign Direct Investment
GDP	=	Gross Domestic Product
CPI	=	Consumer Price Index
INF	=	Inflation
OER	=	Official Exchange Rate
INT	=	Interest Rate
FD	=	Financial Development
USD	=	United States Dollar



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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Foreign direct investment (FDI) is defined as an objective of creating a lasting interest by a direct investor in an enterprise and economy which is other than investor's country. The lasting interest here indicates that a long term relationship exists between direct investors and the enterprise with the significant degree of influence on the enterprise's management (OECD, 2008). FDI is considered to be an important economic factor because it stimulates economic development and improve the well-being of societies (Ali & Hussain, 2017; Pandya & Sisombat, 2017; Zekarias, 2016). Moreover, with a proper policy framework, FDI can offer financial stability to the participated countries because it is considered to be an important driver of the international economic integration (OECD Report, 2008).

Main components of FDI are debt instruments and equity. Debt instruments include bonds, non-participating preference shares, promissory notes, debentures and commercial paper. In addition, the instruments also comprise of other tradable non-equity securities, trade credit, accounts payable, account receivable, deposits and loans. Meanwhile, equity includes preferred shares, common shares, reinvestment of earnings, reserves and capital contributions.

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APPENDIX A

```
. tsset code year
    panel variable: code, 1 to 26
    time variable: year, 2000 to 2015
```

```
. regress fdi x1lngdp x2inf x3lnexch x4int x5fd
```

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs =	408
Model	7833.5971	5	1566.71942	F(5, 402) =	38.33
Residual	16432.9127	402	40.8778922	Prob > F =	0.0000
-----				R-squared =	0.3228
-----				Adj R-squared =	0.3144
Total	24266.5098	407	59.6228742	Root MSE =	6.3936

Fdi	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
x1lngdp	-1.456677	.2251071	-6.47	0.000	-1.899211 -1.014143
x2inf	.2143021	.0778971	2.75	0.006	.0611655 .3674388
x3lnexch	-.1234209	.1295968	-0.95	0.341	-.3781929 .1313511
x4int	.1405599	.0773918	1.82	0.070	-.0115833 .2927031
x5fd	.1376796	.0102809	13.39	0.000	.1174684 .1578907
_cons	30.74979	5.717277	5.38	0.000	19.51029 41.98928

```
. vif
```

Variable	VIF	1/VIF
x4int	3.04	0.328663
x1lngdp	2.39	0.418200
x5fd	1.98	0.506005
x3lnexch	1.47	0.678888
x2inf	1.45	0.691354

Mean VIF	2.07	

```
. xtreg fdi x1lngdp x2inf x3lnexch x4int x5fd, fe
```

```
Fixed-effects (within) regression
Group variable (i): code

Number of obs = 408
Number of groups = 26

R-sq: within = 0.0881
    between = 0.0336
    overall = 0.0401

Obs per group: min = 14
               avg = 15.7
               max = 16

corr(u_i, Xb) = -0.3035

F(5,377) = 7.29
Prob > F = 0.0000
```

fdi	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
x1lngdp	.359351	.513003	0.70	0.484	-.6493546 1.368057

x2inf		.2141691	.0641365	3.34	0.001	.088059	.3402792
x3lnexch		-.2913752	1.950436	-0.15	0.881	-4.126472	3.543721
x4int		-.2782739	.0928809	-3.00	0.003	-.4609034	-.0956444
x5fd		.0318463	.0190046	1.68	0.095	-.005522	.0692145
_cons		-2.893277	13.76661	-0.21	0.834	-29.96223	24.17567

sigma_u		6.5547743					
sigma_e		4.5269241					
rho		.67706188	(fraction of variance due to u_i)				

F test that all u_i=0: F(25, 377) = 17.00 Prob > F = 0.0000

. xttest3

Modified Wald test for groupwise heteroskedasticity
in fixed effect regression model

H0: $\sigma(i)^2 = \sigma^2$ for all i

chi2 (26) = 1.3e+05
Prob>chi2 = 0.0000

. xtserial fdi x1lngdp x2inf x3lnexch x4int x5fd

Wooldridge test for autocorrelation in panel data

H0: no first order autocorrelation

F(1, 25) = 11.076
Prob > F = 0.0027

. regress fdi x1lngdp x2inf x3lnexch x4int x5fd, robust cluster (code)

Regression with robust standard errors

Number of obs = 408
F(5, 25) = 2.45
Prob > F = 0.061
R-squared = 0.3228
Root MSE = 6.3936

Number of clusters (code) = 26

Fdi		Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf.	Interval]
x1lngdp		-1.456677	.531753	-2.74	0.011	-2.551843	-.3615116
x2inf		.2143021	.1182261	1.81	0.082	-.029189	.4577933
x3lnexch		-.1234209	.3012653	-0.41	0.686	-.7438884	.4970465
x4int		.1405599	.1404546	1.00	0.327	-.1487118	.4298316
x5fd		.1376796	.0510741	2.70	0.012	.0324905	.2428686
_cons		30.74979	12.05566	2.55	0.017	5.920688	55.57889

APPENDIX B

Descriptive Statics

Variable	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation	N
FDI (%)	5.03	-4.70	58.51	7.69	413
GDP (USD billion)	55,300	43.90	1,110,000	148,000	416
Inflation (%)	4.57	-18.11	38.60	4.87	413
Exchange Rate (LCU/USD)	1,190.27	0.27	21,697.57	3,815.55	416
Interest Rate (%)	10.86	1.14	51.90	7.15	413
Financial Development (%)	61.91	3.76	233.21	43.29	414

APPENDIX C

Correlation Analysis

	Y=FDI	X1=GDP	X2=CPI	X3=OER	X4=INT	X5=FD
FDI	1.0000					
GDP	-0.0509	1.0000				
CPI	0.0016	-0.2424	1.0000			
OER	-0.1151	0.0949	0.3004	1.0000		
INT	-0.0514	-0.6245	0.5321	0.3731	1.0000	
FD	0.3920	0.6192	-0.3736	-0.1527	-0.6374	1.0000