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**THE EFFECTS OF SYSTEMATIC RISKS ON BANK
ASSET QUALITY: EVIDENCE FROM ORGANISATION
OF THE PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES
(OPEC)**



**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
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**THE EFFECTS OF SYSTEMATIC RISKS ON BANK ASSET QUALITY:
EVIDENCE FROM ORGANISATION OF THE PETROLEUM
EXPORTING COUNTRIES (OPEC)**

By

ISMA'IL TIJJANI IDRIS



**Thesis Submitted to
School of Economics, Finance and Banking,
Universiti Utara Malaysia,
in Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

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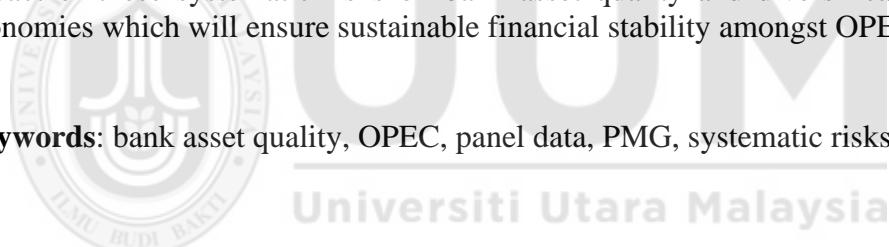
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ABSTRACT

The global position of Non-Performing Loans (NPLs) is persistent and on the rise which indicates a global deterioration of bank asset quality. The problem is more pronounced among the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) whose ratio of NPLs is on the verge of the banking crisis. The objective of this study is to investigate the effects of the prevalence of systematic risk factors in the OPEC countries on the deterioration of their bank asset quality. In achieving this objective, the study employed the panel data set of the entire OPEC countries spanning 1996-2015. Further, to account for NPL persistence, the study employed Pooled Mean Group (PMG) model in its estimations. The findings reveal that an increase in oil price improves bank asset quality which signifies that a rise in oil price inversely affects NPLs. On the other hand, a rise in the level of corruption increases the level of NPLs which indicates that corruption positively affects NPLs. Further, an increase in the level of political instability deteriorates the level of bank asset quality which means that an increase in the level of political instability positively affects NPLs. Additionally, the result reveals that an increase in environmental risks raises the level of NPLs which denotes that an increase in the occurrence of environmental risk positively affects NPLs. Overall, the findings imply that the prevalence of systematic risks in OPEC countries adversely affect bank asset quality and are key to financial stability. Consequently, the results imply that policymakers should design appropriate prudential policies that will curtail the impact of these systematic risks on bank asset quality and diversification of their economies which will ensure sustainable financial stability amongst OPEC countries.

Keywords: bank asset quality, OPEC, panel data, PMG, systematic risks



ABSTRAK

Kedudukan berterusan dan semakin meningkatnya Pinjaman Tidak Berbayar (NPL) di peringkat antarabangsa menunjukkan kemerosotan *global* kualiti aset bank. Masalah ini lebih menekan dalam kalangan Pertubuhan Negara Pengekspor Petroleum (OPEC) yang nisbah NPL berada di ambang krisis perbankan. Objektif kajian ini adalah untuk meneliti kesan-kesan faktor risiko sistematik di negara-negara OPEC terhadap kemerosotan kualiti aset bank mereka. Dalam mencapai matlamat ini, kajian ini menggunakan set data panel bagi keseluruhan negara-negara OPEC sepanjang tempoh 1996-2015. Tambahan pula, bagi menjelaskan keberterusan NPL, kajian ini menggunakan model *Pooled Mean Group* (PMG) untuk membuat anggaran. Keputusan menunjukkan bahawa kenaikan harga minyak meningkatkan kualiti aset bank yang menandakan bahawa kenaikan harga minyak menyumbang kepada NPL. Sebaliknya, peningkatan tahap rasuah meningkatkan tahap NPL yang menunjukkan bahawa rasuah mempengaruhi NPL secara positif. Selanjutnya, peningkatan tahap ketidakstabilan politik melemahkan tahap kualiti aset bank yang bermaksud bahawa peningkatan ketidakstabilan politik mempengaruhi NPL secara positif. Selain itu, kajian turut mempermerkan bahawa peningkatan risiko alam sekitar meningkatkan tahap NPL yang menunjukkan bahawa peningkatan risiko alam sekitar memberi kesan positif kepada NPL. Keseluruhannya, penemuan ini menyimpulkan bahawa kelaziman risiko sistematik di negara-negara OPEC menjelaskan kualiti aset bank dan merupakan kunci kepada kestabilan kewangan. Hasil kajian ini turut menyimpulkan bahawa pembuat dasar perlu merangka dasar berhemah yang sesuai yang akan mengurangkan kesan risiko sistematik terhadap kualiti aset bank dan kepelbagaiannya ekonomi mereka demi memastikan kestabilan kewangan yang mapan dalam kalangan negara-negara OPEC.

Kata kunci: kualiti aset bank, OPEC, data panel, PMG, risiko sistematik

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Full Meaning
ADF	Augmented Dickey-Fuller
AIC	Akaike Information Criterion
AR	Autoregressive
ARDL	Autoregressive Distributed Lag
BA	Banque D'Algeria
BRICS	Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
BACP	Business Anti-Corruption Portal
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
BE	Banco del Ecuador
BNA	Banco Nacional de Angola
BOS	Brent Oil Spot
CBI	Central Bank of Iran
CBIQ	Central Bank of Iraq
CBK	Central Bank of Kuwait
CBL	Central Bank of Libya
CBN	Central Bank of Nigeria
CBUAE	Central Bank of United Arab Emirate
CI	Corruption Index
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
CORR	Corruption
CPI	Corruption Perception Index
CRED	Centre for Research on Epidemiology of Disasters
DL	Doubtful Loan
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDF	Expected Default Frequency
ER	Environmental Risks
EU	European Union
EFCC	Economic and Financial Crimes Commission
FAVAR	Factor Augmented Vector Autoregressive
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FE	Fixed Effect
FER	Flexible Exchange Rate
FSI	Financial Soundness Indicators
GARCH	Generalised Autoregressive Conditional Heteroskedasticity
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
GDFS	Global Development Finance System
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFC	Global Financial Crisis
GFSR	Global Financial Stability Report
GIPSI	Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Spain and Italy
GMM	Generalised Method of Moments
GVAR	Global Vector Autoregressive
IAGS	Institute for the Analysis of Global Securities
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standard
IFS	International Financial Statistics
IGO	Intergovernmental Organisation

IMF	International Monetary Funds
IPS	Im, Pesaran and Shin
ISIS	Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham
LIR	Lending Interest Rate
LL	Loss Loan
LM	Lagrange Multiplier
LNG	Liquidified Natural Gas
MG	Mean Group
MLL	Maximum Log Likelihood
MS	Markov-switching
MS-ARCH	Markov-switching ARCH
MW	Maddala and Wu
MWALD	Modified WALD Test
NIDS	National Insurance Deposit Schemes
NOC	Net Oil Consuming
NOP	Net Oil Producing
NPL	Non-Performing Loan
OBS	OPEC Basket Price
OECD	Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development
OLS	Ordinary Least Squares
OP	Oil Price
OPEC	Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries
ORB	OPEC Reference Basket
PIP	Polity IV Project
PI	Political Instability
PMG	Pool Mean Group
PII	Political Instability Index
PSAVTI	Political Stability and Absence of Violence /Terrorism Index
PTS	Political Terror Scale
QCB	Qatar Central Bank
RDGP	Real Gross Domestic Products
RE	Random Effect
RER	Real Exchange Rate
RVF	Residual Value Fitted
SAMA	Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency
SBC	Schwarz Bayesian Criteria
SL	Substandard Loan
TGARCH	Threshold GARCH
TI	Transparency International
UNEMP	Unemployment
UUM	Universiti Utara Malaysia
USD	United States Dollars
VAR	Vector Autoregression
VECM	Vector Error Correction Model
VIF	Variance Inflation Factor
VS	Versus
WDIs	World Development Indicators
WGI	Worldwide Governance Indicators
WSJ	Wall Street Journal
WTI	West Texas Intermediate

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The financial system is an integral part of any economy that facilitates economic growth and development of every nation state. Further, financial institutions are the bedrock of economic development of any nation that stimulus the allocation of resources across space and time (Levine, 2005). Economies around the world organise their financial activities on certain parameters that are in consonance with their individual nations' needs or based on certain opportunities or threats which they are confronted with, perhaps because of their internal strengths or weaknesses. In most cases, these financial systems are compositions of financial institutions, financial markets and financial regulators (see, for example, Madura, 2014; Mishkin & Eakins, 2012). Depending on the political-economy of a country the financial institutions may consist of finance companies, banks, insurance companies, mutual fund, pension funds, and stock exchanges.

However, these financial institutions and markets operate in a business environment, which is an interrelationship of many societal factors that shape and determine their activities. This business environment is made up of economic, political, environmental (ecological), technological, social and legal factors that affect and shape the activities of the financial institutions and markets.

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Appendix A

Table 1.3
OPEC Member States' TI Corruption Perception Index
Corruption Perception Index

Year	ALGERIA	ANGOLA	ECUADOR	IRAN	IRAQ	KUWAIT	LIBYA	NIGERIA	QATAR	S/ARABIA	UAE	VENEZUELA
2000	NA	1.7	2.6	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.2	NA	NA	NA	2.7
2001	NA	NA	2.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	2.8
2002	NA	1.7	2.2	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.6	NA	NA	NA	2.5
2003	2.6	1.8	2.2	3	2.2	5.3	2.1	1.4	5.6	4.5	5.2	2.4
2004	2.7	2	2.4	2.9	2.1	4.6	2.5	1.6	5.2	3.4	6.1	2.3
2005	2.8	2	2.5	2.9	2.2	4.7	2.5	1.9	5.9	3.4	6.2	2.3
2006	3.1	2.2	2.3	2.7	1.9	4.8	2.7	2.2	6	3.3	6.2	2.3
2007	3	2.2	2.1	2.5	1.5	4.3	2.5	2.2	6	3.4	5.7	2
2008	3.2	1.9	2	2.3	1.3	4.3	2.6	2.7	6.5	3.5	5.9	1.9
2009	2.8	1.9	2.2	1.8	1.5	4.1	2.5	2.5	7	4.3	6.5	1.9
2010	2.9	1.9	2.5	2.2	1.5	4.5	2.2	2.4	7.7	4.7	6.3	2
2011	2.9	2	2.7	2.7	1.8	4.6	2	2.4	7.2	4.4	6.8	1.9
2012	34	22	32	28	18	44	21	27	68	44	68	19
2013	36	23	35	25	16	43	15	25	68	46	69	20
2014	36	19	33	27	16	44	18	27	69	49	70	19

Source: Transparency International (2015)

Appendix B

Table 1.4
OPEC Member States' Political Instability Index
US State Department Political-Terror Scale and Ranking

Year	ALGERIA	ANGOLA	ECUADOR	IRAN	IRAQ	KUWAIT	LIBYA	NIGERIA	QATAR	S/ARABIA	UAE	VENEZUELA
2000	4	5	3	3	5	1	3	3	1	3	1	3
2001	4	4	3	3	5	1	3	4	1	3	2	3
2002	4	4	3	3	5	2	3	4	1	3	2	4
2003	4	4	3	3	5	2	3	4	1	3	2	3
2004	4	4	3	3	5	2	3	4	1	3	2	3
2005	4	4	3	3	5	2	3	4	1	3	2	3
2006	4	3	3	3	5	2	3	4	1	3	2	4
2007	3	4	3	3	5	2	3	3	2	3	2	4
2008	3	3	3	3	5	2	3	4	1	3	2	4
2009	2	4	3	4	4	2	3	4	1	4	1	4
2010	3	3	2	3	4	2	3	5	1	3	2	3
2011	3	3	3	3	3	2	5	4	1	3	2	3
2012	2	3	3	3	4	2	4	4	1	3	2	4
2013	2	3	2	3	5	2	4	4	2	3	3	3
2014	3	3	2	3	5	2	4	5	2	3	3	4

Source: The Political Terror scale (2015)

Appendix C

Table 1.5
OPEC member States' Major Environmental Disasters
EM-DAT: The CRED/OFDA International Disasters Epidemiology

Year	ALGERIA	ANGOLA	ECUADOR	IRAN	IRAQ	KUWAIT	LIBYA	NIGERIA	QATAR	S/ARABIA	UAE	VENEZUELA
2000	6	14	7	16	1		1	54		4		2
2001	1	12	4	19				44		2	1	2
2002	9	3	9	24			2	38		5	1	2
2003	12	4	4	19	3	1		23		6		3
2004	9	8		17	3		2	25		2	1	4
2005	6	2		23	3			32		2		9
2006	4	4	4	12	5			22		3		1
2007	7	5	3	6	3			20		3		1
2008	3	6	2	13	3		1	15		2	1	4
2009	6	6	2	6	2	1	1	12	1	1		2
2010	2	3	7	10	3		1	11		2	1	3
2011	1	5	2	5	1		1	13		2		5
2012	3	2	4	8	1		1	11	1	3		2
2013		2	5	6	1		3	11		2	1	1
2014	4	1	5	4			9	9	1	1		1

Source: EM-DAT-Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (2015)

Appendix D

Table A1

Pooled Estimate of ARDL (1,1,1,1,1,1): Mean Group: NPLs for OPEC Countries

Variables	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-stat	Prob. Value	95% Conf. Interval	
OP	1.350186	1.387445	0.97	0.330	-1.369156	4.069528
CORR	9.95931	4.72412	2.11	0.024	-16.33893	96.25754
PIS	5.8119	3.15195	1.84	0.076	-28.76437	140.3882
ERS	-.5870548	1.078531	-0.54	0.586	-2.700936	1.526826
RGDP	-4.581622	0.581622	-7.87	0.000	-4.398193	13.56144
UNEMP	25.99688	24.76539	1.05	0.294	-22.5424	74.53615
Speed of Adj.	-.6517094	.2948404	-2.21	0.027	-1.229586	-.0738329

Table A2*Pooled Estimate of ARDL (1,1,1,1,1,1): Pooled Mean Group: NPLs for OPEC Countries*

Variables	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-stat	Prob. Value	95% Conf. Interval	
OP	-.0196904	.0063031	-3.12	0.002	-.0320443	-.0073364
CORR	4.492702	.9073558	4.95	0.000	2.714317	6.271087
PIS	4.276017	.8024085	5.33	0.000	2.703325	5.848709
ERS	.1744239	.0607458	2.87	0.004	.0553644	.2934835
RGDP	-4.089691	.9735577	-4.20	0.000	-5.997829	-2.181553
UNEMP	.249103	.0861685	2.89	0.004	.0802159	.4179902
Speed of Adj.	-.4678951	.1812658	-2.58	0.010	-.8231696	-.1126205

Table A3*Pooled Estimate of ARDL (1,1,1,1,1,1): Dynamic Fixed Effect: NPLs for OPEC Countries*

Variables	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-stat	Prob. Value	95% Conf. Interval	
OP	.1170435	.2278736	0.51	0.608	-.3295806	.5636676
CORR	-22.20999	21.12722	-1.05	0.293	-63.61859	19.1986
PIS	-4.425497	11.43852	-0.39	0.699	-26.84459	17.99359
ERS	.7428581	1.277382	0.58	0.561	1.760765	3.246481
RGDP	40.01993	28.37915	1.41	0.158	15.60218	95.64204
UNEMP	-.3221543	1.809064	-0.18	0.859	-3.867854	3.223546
Speed of Adj.	-.2011697	.052498	-3.83	0.000	-.3040638	-.0982755

Appendix E

Table B1

Static Panel Model: Pooled OLS: NPLs for OPEC Member States

Variables	Coefficient	Std.	t-stat	Prob> t	95% Conf. Interval
Error.					
OP	-1.908997	.6174873	-3.09	0.004	-3.170074 -.6479193
CORR	2.850602	1.013195	2.81	0.009	.7813825 4.919821
PIS	2.007778	.9681731	2.07	0.047	3.985052 -.0305053
ERS	-.0968959	.3600678	-0.27	0.790	-.8322524 .6384607
RER	-1.039404	.9156386	-1.14	0.265	-2.909388 .830579
RGDP	-.441077	.8439357	-0.52	0.605	-2.164624 1.28247
LIR	-2.34756	1.116433	-2.10	0.044	-4.627621 -.0674984
INF	2.123405	.9541383	2.23	0.034	.174795 4.072016
UNEMP	-1.181169	1.044535	-1.13	0.267	-3.314395 .9520564
CONS	16.70586	7.345995	2.27	0.030	1.703341 31.70839

Table B2*Static Panel Model: Fixed Effect: NPLs for OPEC Member States*

Variables	Coefficient	Std.	t-stat	Prob> t	95% Conf. Interval
Error.					
OP	-1.906311	.5542309	-3.44	0.002	-3.043499 -.7691232
CORR	4.172629	1.278972	3.26	0.003	1.548396 6.796863
PIS	3.20318	.8510897	3.76	0.001	-4.949472 -1.456889
ERS	.299915	.1345291	2.23	0.033	-1.071261 .4714306
RER	-1.178005	.8512924	-1.38	0.178	-2.924713 .5687025
RGDP	-1.046278	1.148223	-0.91	0.370	-3.402236 1.30968
LIR	-3.189375	.9337393	-3.42	0.002	-5.10525 -1.2735
INF	1.926914	.8057014	2.39	0.024	.2737516 3.580077
UNEMP	.8369624	1.074839	0.78	0.443	-1.368424 3.042349
CONS	16.35046	7.8498	2.08	0.047	.2440035 32.45692

Table B3*Static Panel Model: Random Effect: NPLs for OPEC Member States*

Variables	Coefficient	Std.	t-stat	Prob> t	95% Conf. Interval
Error.					
OP	-1.908997	.6174873	-3.09	0.002	-3.11925 -.6987438
CORR	2.850602	1.013195	2.81	0.005	.864777 4.836427
PIS	2.007778	.9681731	2.07	0.038	3.905363 .1101942
ERS	-.0968959	.3600678	-0.27	0.788	-.8026158 .6088241
RER	-1.039404	.9156386	-1.14	0.256	-2.834023 .7552142
RGDP	-.441077	.8439357	-0.52	0.601	-2.095161 1.213007
LIR	-2.34756	1.116433	-2.10	0.035	-4.535729 -.1593903
INF	2.123405	.9541383	2.23	0.026	.2533287 3.993482
UNEMP	-1.181169	1.044535	-1.13	0.258	-3.228421 .8660823
CONS	16.70586	7.345995	2.27	0.023	2.307979 31.10375

Appendix F

Table 1.1 Total Assets and Liabilities of Banks of OPEC member states

Years	Total Assets	Total Customers Deposits	Gross Loans	Total Equity
2000	587.00	336.00	214.00	70.13
2001	534.00	301.00	187.00	72.20
2002	595.00	329.00	224.00	83.02
2003	664.05	358.00	256.01	82.11
2004	860.47	474.04	340.01	121.52
2005	1196.00	652.10	437.38	166.59
2006	1479.00	886.00	566.58	185.36
2007	2084.00	1221.00	808.97	232.04
2008	2439.00	1472.00	1002.00	243.55
2009	2480.00	1506.00	983.00	267.09
2010	2738.00	1646.00	1052.00	288.00
2011	3027.00	1802.00	1208.00	340.00
2012	3652.00	2214.00	1437.00	368.00
2013	3864.00	2224.00	1411.00	382.00
2014	3577.00	2186.00	1401.98	318.27

Appendix G

Table 1.2 Average NPL Ratios of Global, OPEC, G7, G8 AND BRICS

Year	OPEC	G7	BRICS	G8	GLOBAL
2000	9.99	2.05	12.22	2.06	na
2001	8.74	2.37	11.99	2.28	na
2002	8.36	3.14	12.19	2.99	na
2003	6.99	2.74	11.19	2.60	na
2004	5.82	1.95	6.96	1.89	na
2005	5.56	1.69	4.67	1.62	na
2006	4.31	1.26	4.72	1.29	3.10
2007	4.43	1.36	4.17	1.40	2.70
2008	5.75	1.98	3.94	2.07	3.00
2009	8.19	2.64	5.33	3.10	4.20
2010	6.29	2.47	5.08	2.96	4.10
2011	8.00	2.59	11.78	2.76	4.00
2012	8.94	2.19	4.01	2.30	3.80
2013	8.31	1.99	4.16	2.16	4.20
2014	8.00	1.84	4.00	2.07	4.20