

## **MODEL OF CAUSALITY BETWEEN FDI AND GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT ON ASEAN-5 COUNTRIES FROM 1980-2014**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The research examines the relationship between Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for ASEAN-5 countries between the periods of 1980 to 2014. The study uses a Toda-Yamamoto granger causality model to test the causality between the FDI and the GDP. The results show that the ASEAN countries are differently in responding the impacts of FDI to the GDP. In general, the FDI leads to GNP in Singapore and Thailand while, in Indonesia and Malaysia, the GNP leads to FDI. In the case of Philippines, there is no causality relationship between the two variables found.

**Keywords:** FDI, GDP, ASEAN, Toda-Yamamoto

**JEL Classification:** E01, F21

### **INTRODUCTION**

The relationship between Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has long been an issue of interest among researchers and policymakers. FDI is often considered as the key role in economic development. However, there is a view that FDI has no significant impact to the economy of a country. Based on the data from UNCTAD (2015), Southeast Asia region has a significant portion of FDI flow and stock which is the second highest after the East Asia region. Among the Southeast Asian countries, most of the FDI flows into countries like Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and Philippines.

The high FDI flows and stock to Southeast Asia (hereinafter ASEAN) are due to economic policy implementation that focused on foreign investment since the 1980s

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(Winantyo et al, 2008). Since 1987, ASEAN has initiated a step of investment agreement by the signing of the Promotion and Protection of Investment Agreement (PPIA). A decade later, in 1998, it initiated the framework on the ASEAN Investment Area (AIA), the investment incentives aimed to promote ASEAN as an attractive competitive region, that is open and free to attract and increase FDI (Aldaba and Yap, 2009; Winantyo et al, 2008).

In 2008, these agreements merged into one, known as the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA). Through ACIA, there are three stages towards the ASEAN liberalization for the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015. The first stage was conducted in 2008 to 2011, the second stage was conducted in 2011 to 2013, and the final stage was conducted in 2013 to 2015. (Winantyo et al, 2008). When the final stage has completed, the single market of the ASEAN Economic Community enacted at the end of 2015 as a continuation towards the liberalization in ASEAN region. One of the important pillars of AEC 2015 was the implementation of the free flow of investment.

The free flow of investments in AEC 2015 provides opportunities for the FDI improvement in ASEAN region. It is expected to create shared prosperity in the region through an increase in GDP, because, the welfare may occur if there is an acceleration of capital accumulation and investment, especially FDI. The framework is in line with the hypothesis of FDI-driven growth. The hypothesis believes that FDI can lead an improvement in the GDP. It is supported by empirical research by Kundan and Gu (2010) in Nepal and by Baharumshah and Thanoon (2006) in East Asia which support the hypothesis of the existence of FDI-driven growth.

On the other hand, the regionalization and liberalization, such as AEC 2015, may have a significant impact on the FDI inflow. Because the economic integration creates a greater market share, then the performance of the broad and integrated regional economy will be getting better. It is what lies behind the second hypothesis. FDI-driven growth requires the growth of market size to attract FDI. This hypothesis is empirically supported by the research of Chakraborty and Basu (2002), and Pradhan (2008) that showed the pattern of relationship FDI-driven growth. In addition, Ang (2008) investigated the relationship between two variables. The research results support the hypothesis of FDI-driven growth.

The different conclusions of most research on this topic have led to a controversy in both theoretical and empirical levels. On the theoretical level, the relationship between FDI

and GDP is still a matter of debate in many countries, whereas on the empirical level, research findings are not always in line with the constructed theories. On the theoretical level as cited in Aga's (2014), Adam (2009) classifies two main views used to demonstrate the relationship between FDI and GDP comprising traditional view as represented by dependency theory and modern view led by the neoclassical and endogenous growth theory.

From the traditional standpoint, dependency theory claims that inhibition of FDI does not significantly affect the increase in GDP. FDI bring through developed countries to exploit most of the existing economic potentials of poor countries. Dividend given by foreign investors to the host countries turned out to be channeled to the investor's home country (Kuncoro, 2006). Moreover, FDI tends to inhibit direct investment which local companies cannot compete because of the limited funding, size and market force.

The above opinion is supported by previous research. The first FDI research by Weisskopf (1972) supports the traditional standpoint that the host countries of FDI receive an insufficient benefit because the profit is transferred to the foreign company's home country. Saltz (1992) further examined the effects of FDI in 68 developing countries and revealed the negative correlation between two variables. Several of recent researchs fall into the similar conclusion. However, Herzer and Klasen (2008) examined the pattern of the relation between two variables in 28 countries. The results showed that only seven countries cointegrated in the long term. In addition, no causality that supports the neutral causality hypothesis proven to be occurring in 16 countries. Lastly, Falki (2009) has done the research about the impact of FDI, domestic capital, foreign capital and labor toward the economic growth of Pakistan during 1980 to 2006.

Although many research suggest that FDI generates negative impact on the economy, however, there is also few research have examined the relationship of these variables reveal a positive implication on the economy. The research were driven by modernization view specifically by the neoclassical and endogenous growth theory stating that FDI is predicted to have positive effect on the economy of the recipient country. According to Gui-Diby (2014), FDI is assumed to generate such spillover effect as extended job creation, capital accumulation, knowledge, and technology transfer.

According to neoclassical theory, FDI increases GNP through the increased investment volume or its efficiency (Li and Liu, 2005). Furthermore, FDI increases the supply of capital and the growth of recipient countries through the formation of fixed capital. On the other hand, based on endogenous growth theory, FDI increases GNP by the diffusion of technology of home country to the host country. FDI related technological spillover counterbalances the effect generated by the diminishing returns on investment and retains economy on the long-term growth path.

From the perspective of modernization, the first hypothesis of FDI-driven growth generated. This hypothesis is formulated based on the growth theory which puts direct investment as one of the determinants of output growth. The impact of FDI on the economy of recipient country is examined in the context of its effect on the factors triggering growth including human capital, export and technology. Furthermore, FDI encourages the export of host country and help companies in the host countries to advance their access to international market. Several empirical research indicated the same hypothesis as exemplified by Kundan and Gu (2010) in Nepal by utilizing granger causality and cointegration that revealed the long-term relationship of the variables and the direction of the causality running from FDI to GNP. In addition, Baharumshah dan Thanoon (2006) asserted the effect of GNP on economic growth of such countries as in East Asia including China, both in the short-term and long-term.

The second hypothesis states that FDI-driven growth or GNP economic growth leads to the flow of FDI. According to Zhang (2001), to start identify how the flow of FDI is driven by the GDP is by distinguishing the type of FDI based on its essential motive. Market-seeking FDI is affected by access to the host country market size and resource efficiency and economic exploration. Moreover, Export-Oriented FDI is affected by the differences in factor prices (low wages) along with the quality of human capital and infrastructure condition. The hypothesis of FDI-driven growth requires the growth of market size and infrastructure to attract FDI. An increase in the market size of a country indicates an increase in GNP. This condition leads to an increase in the investment made by multinational companies. A high GNP can stimulate higher demand for investment including FDI. The good economic performance of the recipient country provides better infrastructure facilities and opportunity to obtain higher profit.

This hypothesis is supported by several studies showing that a relatively high increase in GNP is able to attract higher FDI flow into the host country as Chakraborty and Basu (2002) research in the context of India employing the VECM method for determining the short-term dynamic interaction between two variables. The empirical result showed that causality flow from real GDP to FDI. In addition, Ang (2008) has investigated the relationship between two variables in Malaysia that revealed the GNP leads to long-term FDI. The two previously mentioned researchs are also supported by a research by Pradhan (2008) which analyzed the pattern of the relationship between FDI and economic growth in Malaysia and India during 1970-2004 using granger causality test and cointegration. The result shows that economic growth leads to FDI in both countries.

The last is the hypothesis of feedback, the most interesting scenario in the relationship between GNP and FDI. According to Zhang (2001), the condition can occur because a high increase in GNP or a rapid economic growth of a country not only attracts more FDI but also provides better opportunities to generate profit. On the one hand, the flow of FDI may directly and indirectly helps in increasing the host country's GNP. This hypothesis supported by research conducted by Srinivasan et al (2011) in the SAARC countries. The results show a two-way relationship of FDI and GNP in SAARC countries excluding India. In addition, Umoh et al (2012) investigated the correlation between economic growth and foreign investment in Nigeria in 1970 and 2008 using a single equation model and system of simultaneous equations. The result indicates a positive correlation of the growth rate to FDI and vice versa. Lastly, Shaari et al (2012) utilized the VAR model with cointegration techniques, granger-causality and VECM. The result of granger causality tests show that FDI leads to GDP and vice versa.

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

Referring to its objectives, this research is classified as a causal-comparative research. The two variables used in this research comprised FDI and GNP as represented by FDI stock. GDP was used in this study due to its ability to describe economic activity (increase output) in a country during a given period. Next, the use of stock of FDI, if it compared to other proxies can precisely explain its relationship with GDP variable (Zhang, 2002).

The data used was secondary data obtained from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The selected research period started from 1980 to 2013. The 1980 period used as the starting point of the analysis due to the fact that FDI policy reforms in most of the ASEAN countries that have been occurred since the early 1980s (Winantyo et al, 2008). The selection of ASEAN-5 countries as the research objects including Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines was based on the reason that the ASEAN-5 had benefited from the flow and great FDI stock and high level of GDP. Therefore, the ASEAN-5 countries are predicted to have a strong prospect in attracting the world's FDI volume in the era of AEC 2015.

This research examines two variables, thus bilateral causality can be used. Bilateral causality can be examined using Granger causality model or Toda-Yamamoto causality model. Granger causality model is a term used to identify the existence of the causal relationship in time series analysis. According to Oladipo (2009) in Agustin's (2014), Granger causality test is based on the null hypothesis formulated as a zero restriction on the coefficient of the subset slackness of the variables involved. If the subset slackness of the variables involved is not at the level, then the results of Granger causality test estimate are false and inefficient. In this research, if the data did not have roots at the unit level, then Granger causality models can be used. The granger causality standard model used is as follows:

$$LNGDP_t = c_1 + \sum_{k=1}^n a_{1i} LNGDP_{t-k} + \sum_{k=1}^n a_{2i} LNFDI_{t-k} + e_t \quad (1)$$

$$LNFDI_t = c_2 + \sum_{k=1}^n a_{1i} LNFDI_{t-k} + \sum_{k=1}^n a_{2i} LNGDP_{t-k} + e_t \quad (2)$$

Toda-Yamamoto causality method is a modification of Granger causality test that can be used for non-stationary data at the current level but can be used in level. In general, according to Oladipo (2009) in Agustin (2014), the use of Toda-Yamamoto method is needed to avoid the estimation of spurious causality but it is inefficient for data that has its unit roots at the level. If there is no unit root in the data that used at the level of the first difference, the model of Toda-Yamamoto causality method is used. Equation model used in Toda Yamamoto causality test is presented below:

$$LN\text{GDP}_t = \sum_{i=1}^{k+dmax} a_{1i} LN\text{GDP}_{t-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{k+dmax} a_{21} LN\text{FDI}_{t-1} + e_t \quad (3)$$

$$LN\text{FDI}_t = \sum_{i=1}^{k+dmax} a_{1i} LN\text{FDI}_{t-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{k+dmax} a_{21} LN\text{GDP}_{t-1} + e_t \quad (4)$$

where  $k$  is the optimal lag,  $dmax$  is the maximum order,  $\text{GDP}_t$  is gross domestic product in period  $t$ , and  $\text{FDI}$  is FDI stock in period  $t$ . In using Toda-Yamamoto causality model, the first step is to determine the maximum order ( $dmax$ ) which can be identified through the stationary unit root test – ADF test. The next step is to determine the optimal lag ( $k$ ). Once the maximum order ( $dmax$ ) and optimal lag ( $k$ ) is identified, it is necessary to estimate the augmented VAR model.

## RESULTS

### Stationary tests

Stationary test in this research aims to analyze whether the variables in the estimation have roots units or not, because most of the macroeconomic data are not stationary. If it still estimated, it generates spurious regression (spurious regression). Moreover, the result can be stationary give the information regarding causality test models used. If the stationary is on the degree level, then use the model of Granger causality. If stationary is on the degree one, then use the Toda Yamamoto causality model. The stationary test in this research is using Augmented Dickey-Fuller test by comparing the probability value with the level of  $\alpha$  (1%, 5% and 10%) or also by comparing the value of Augmented Dickey-Fuller with Mackinnon Statistic Critical Value.

From the stationary test result, it indicates that the variables of FDI (LFDI) and the variable gross domestic product (LGDP) are not stationary at the degree level. Therefore, stationary testing should be continued in the first instance. The test results further show that the variable of FDI (FDI) and variable GDP (GDP) of each of the stationary state in the first instance. In addition, from the stationary test results can be seen that the Toda-Yamamoto causality models are used.

**Table 1. Stationary test using ADF**

Countries	Variable	ADF tests			
		Constant		Linear and Constant	
		Level	First Difference	Level	First Difference
Indonesia	LFDI	-0.5466 (0.8688)	<b>-3.4305 **</b> <b>(0.0171)</b>	-2.5481 (0.3047)	<b>-3.4358 ***</b> <b>(0.0643)</b>
	LGDP	0.0939 (0.9604)	<b>-5.8704 *</b> <b>(0.0000)</b>	-1.7354 (0.7125)	<b>-6.0586 *</b> <b>(0.0001)</b>
Malaysia	LFDI	-0.0077 (0.9512)	<b>-4.8955 *</b> <b>(0.0004)</b>	-1.6839 (0.7358)	<b>-4.8192 *</b> <b>(0.0026)</b>
	LGDP	0.0502 (0.9566)	<b>-4.9593 *</b> <b>(0.0003)</b>	-2.2515 (0.4472)	<b>-4.8802 *</b> <b>(0.0023)</b>
Singapore	LFDI	-0.6162 (0.8536)	<b>-6.2550 *</b> <b>(0.0000)</b>	-3.0836 (0.1267)	<b>-6.1519 *</b> <b>(0.0001)</b>
	LGDP	-0.7453 (0.8208)	<b>-3.5204 **</b> <b>(0.0138)</b>	-2.0747 (0.5396)	<b>-3.4848 ***</b> <b>(0.0582)</b>
Thailand	LFDI	-1.1250 (0.6940)	<b>-6.3070 *</b> <b>(0.0000)</b>	-1.9920 (0.5841)	<b>-6.3705 *</b> <b>(0.0000)</b>
	LGDP	-0.7297 (0.8250)	<b>-3.6369 **</b> <b>(0.0104)</b>	-2.2048 (0.4710)	<b>-3.5778 **</b> <b>(0.0479)</b>
Filipina	LFDI	-0.97746 (0.7497)	<b>-4.6977 *</b> <b>(0.0007)</b>	<b>-3.3634 ***</b> <b>(0.0750)</b>	<b>-4.5985 *</b> <b>(0.0045)</b>
	LGDP	1.235 (0.9977)	<b>-4.3317 *</b> <b>(0.0018)</b>	-1.3543 (0.8557)	<b>-10.9412 *</b> <b>(0.0000)</b>

Source: Authors' Calculation

\* Significantly on the degree 1%, \*\* Significantly on the degree 5%, and

\*\*\* Significantly on the degree 10%

### Optimal Lag

Optimal lag is used to determine the recommended length of lag. Through the determination of the optimal lag, it will be known the optimal lag length for further testing. Long lag determination is based on some criteria such as LR, FPE, AIC, SC and HQ. The optimal lag test results of five countries show the maximum lag in each country in a different time period. Indonesia optimal lag shows in figure 5. Malaysia and Philippines are in the lag 1. Meanwhile, Singapore and Thailand lies in the second lag.



**Table 2. Optimal Lag**

Countries	Criteria					Results
	LR	FPE	AIC	SC	HQ	
Indonesia	5	5	5	1	5	5
Malaysia	1	1	1	1	1	1
Singapore	2	2	2	2	2	2
Thailand	2	3	3	2	2	2
Filipina	1	1	1	1	1	1

Source: Authors' Calculation

### Cointegration Test

Cointegration test is used to determine the balance in the long term between the variables in the model. Cointegration test based on the method that uses the Johansen's cointegration optimal lag in accordance with the determination of an underlying deterministic cointegration equation. Johansen cointegration test is known by comparing the eigenvalues subset of the statistics with eigenvalues in the table with a confidence level of 5%. In addition, also compare the value of the statistical trace values in the table with a confidence level of 5%.

**Table 3. Johansen Cointegration Test**

Countries	Max Eigen Statistics	Eigen 5 %	Max Trace Statistics	Trace 5 %	Results
Indonesia	24.49392	19.38704	29.93932	25.87211	Cointegration
Malaysia	16.88442	19.38704	23.82156	25.87211	No Cointegration
Singapore	21.05978	19.38704	25.91552	25.87211	Cointegration
Thailand	8.396637	17.14769	12.01322	18.39771	No Cointegration
Filipina	17.44333	19.38704	25.02529	25.87211	No Cointegration

Source: Authors' Calculation

From the test results, Indonesia and Singapore show the cointegrated variables, while Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand show no cointegration. Thus equation models of Indonesia and Singapore have the similar movement among variables in the long term. The existence of cointegration shows that at least there is a relationship between variables. While in Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand where no cointegration imply that there is no balance in the long term. After conducting the data stationary test, as well as the determination of the optimal lag cointegration test, then continue with causality test.

### Causality Test

Causality test is used to determine an exogenous variable can be treated as an endogenous variable. In this research, Toda-Yamamoto causality model is used where all the variables are integrated on a single degree as it have been tested in stationary data. In identifying the causal relationship between the two variables, probability value is compared to a confidence level of 1% and 5%.

**Table 4. Causality Test**

Countries	Hypothesis	Information	Probabilities
Malaysia	FDI→GDP	$l=1, dmax=1$	0.9505
	FDI←GDP		<b>0.0106</b>
Filipina	FDI→GDP	$l=1, dmax=1$	0.6429
	FDI←GDP		0.0575
Thailand	FDI→GDP	$l=2, dmax=1$	<b>0.0000</b>
	FDI←GDP		0.6611
Indonesia	FDI→GDP	$l=5, dmax=1$	0.9633
	FDI←GDP		<b>0.0000</b>
Singapore	FDI→GDP	$l=2, dmax=1$	<b>0.0093</b>
	FDI←GDP		0.2856

Source: Authors' Calculation

The Toda-Yamamoto causality test results show the relationship between variables as shown in the table 4. Indonesia and Malaysia are going one-way relationship that affecting the FDI and GDP at the rate of 5%. While Singapore and Thailand show one-way relationship of FDI and GDP at a rate of 5%. Lastly, Philippines does not showing the causal relationship between the variables at the 5% level.

The results of some series of tests revealed that the relationship between FDI and GNP differs in ASEAN-5 countries. In general, the FDI leads to GNP in Singapore and Thailand while, in Indonesia and Malaysia, the GNP leads to FDI. In the case of Philippines, there is no causality relationship between the two variables found.

The differences direction of this relationship strengthen the findings of Zhang (2001) in 11 countries of South America and East Asia, Vijayakumar (2009) in the countries of BRICS, and Esso (2010) for 10 developing countries of Africa which revealed the relationship between the two variables differs in one country and other. The different pattern of the relationship between those two variables is as a result of the stability of

macroeconomic conditions, differences in economic structure (Zhang, 2001), investment climate and investment policy (Herzer and Klasen, 2008).

In the case of Singapore and Thailand, the FDI leads to GDP; the finding reinforces the hypothesis of FDI-driven growth. This particular finding is also proved by the research of Kundan and Gu (2010) in Nepal, and of Baharumshah and Thanoon (2006) which extend the relationship patterns of FDI to GDP. Theoretically, the pattern of this relationship can be described in neoclassical and endogenous growth theory that claims the direct investment is one of the dominant factors for the increase in GDP. According to Li and Liu (2005), the neoclassical theory explains that FDI increases the capital stock that could lead to an increase in GDP.

However, based on the endogenous growth theory, foreign investment will increase GDP by the diffusion of technology from developed countries to recipient countries (Borensztein, 1998). The technology eliminates the effect of diminishing returns of capital based on neoclassical theory and retains the long-term economic stability. In addition, the endogenous growth theory also asserts that FDI can increase the GDP through the spillover effect.

If it analyzed separately, the pattern of the relationship as found in the case of Singapore can be explained. First, the FDI increases capital accumulation due to the fact that since its initial construction has been used as the trigger of the increased GDP. It cannot be separated from the fact that Singapore is a small country both in terms of its territorial size, population, and insufficient natural resources to build the country. Under these conditions, the economy of Singapore which has experienced contractions at the beginning of its separation from Malaysia encountered difficulty to achieve high economic growth and transformed into a developed country without the presence of FDI.

Second, due to the spillover effects carried by FDI in Singapore, one of them is the transfer of technology or technology overflow. Borensztein et al (1998) argued that the transfer of technology plays an important role in the economic development of a country, for instance the increased productivity in the long-term. Technology overflow as the evidence of the occurrence of spillover effect is also reinforced by the research of Tu and Ta (2012) which revealed that the positive technology transfer in Singapore was derived from China's FDI. The positive spillover effect in Singapore is not impossible because Singapore

has a good absorptive capability. Borensztein et al (1998) explained that the spillover effect may occur depending on the quality of absorptive capability of human capital. Referring to the report of Global Competitiveness Index published by the World Economic Forum (2014), the quality of Singapore human capital as reflected by its excellent higher education and training pillar placed Singapore on the second rank of 144 countries.

Meanwhile, in Thailand, the FDI leads to GDP as a result of several factors. First, as in Singapore, FDI in Thailand increases the capital stock based on the fact that the following economic crisis of 1997/1998, the flow and stock of FDI in Thailand have grown substantially over the last decade. This is in contrast with the case of Indonesia and Malaysia where FDI after the economic crisis of 1997/1998 has not been able to return to prior crisis condition. Second, the occurrence of such spillover effects as technology and knowledge transfer is confirmed by research conducted by Tu and Ta (2012) who found the positive effect of the abundance of technology in Thailand originating from China's FDI. The positive spillover effect in Thailand happens when technology advancement and managerial skills in the FDI are transmitted to domestic companies because of the presence of multinational companies. Technology and knowledge transfer occurs when multinational companies establish cooperation with domestic companies.

Moreover, Thailand's FDI policy focuses on export-oriented multinational companies which correspondingly support the hypothesis of FDI- driven growth. Thailand provides distinct tax incentives to multinationals which have export-oriented products. According to Balasubramanyam et al (1996), hypothesis of FDI-driven growth tends to occur in developing countries that have a policy of export-oriented foreign investment.

The case of Malaysia and Indonesia in which GDP leads to FDI further reinforces the presence of hypothesis of FDI-driven growth. This particular finding is supported by the previous research including by Chakraborty and Basu (2002) in India, by Ang (2008) for Malaysia and by Pradhan (2008) for India and Malaysia for the periods of 1970 to 2004 that revealed the spread out relationship pattern of GDP towards FDI.

If it is analyzed deeply, there are some causes of the relationship direction of Indonesia's GDP which leads to FDI. The first is the large of market size as represented by the number of population. Currently, Indonesia is the fourth most populated country in the world. From the economic perspective, a large number of populations are often analogized

as a potential market. Potential market share provides more opportunities for multinational companies to increase sales and profits and subsequently increase their investment in the country. This is in line with Khan and Nawaz (2010) that foreign investors invest in countries where they get a new opportunity. The large market share of Indonesia is also supported by the report of Global Competitiveness Index issued by World Economic Forum (2014) in which Indonesia ranked 15 out of 144 countries.

Second, Indonesia is stable and relatively has a high economic growth. Over the past three decades, Indonesia economic growth is always higher than 5% per year except during the economic crisis of 1997/1998 and a few years after the crisis. High economic growth during several periods often makes foreign investor to expect faster return on investment. In addition, if compared with other ASEAN-5 countries, Indonesia's economic growth is relatively stable from year to year. It provides comfort and certainty for investors in estimating the rate of profit. The large market share and relatively high and stable economic growth are supported by FDI regulations. Generally, Indonesia opens up opportunities for broader FDI. The publication of Act Number 25 of 2007 provides positive opportunities for the flow of FDI due to the diminishing negative investment list, which means more and more sectors are opened to be entered by FDI.

While in Malaysia, there are several reasons that strengthen the relationship of the GDP that leads to FDI. First, although Malaysia does not have a large population, the level of real income per capita is high. In 2013, the level of Malaysia, real income was the second highest in Southeast Asia. High level of real income makes Malaysia's population to have a greater purchasing power than other countries in the ASEAN-5 and it would be a determining factor for investors. This fact is supported by research of Muhammad et al (2011) that shows market size significantly influences the flow of FDI in Malaysia.

Furthermore, a stable macroeconomic condition also determines the direction of causality in Malaysia as can be seen from such macroeconomic variables as inflation, interest rate, exchange rate and unemployment rate. Malaysia's inflation rate can be kept low. In addition, the Malaysian ringgit exchange rate has a stable movement in recent years. Similarly, the interest rate in Malaysia tends to be low so as to increase FDI in Malaysia. These facts are supported by investment policy that is friendly to foreign investors. Since 2009, the Malaysian government has reformed its investment policy by easing on FDI

restriction and providing a number of incentives to attract more FDI. Easing restriction and incentive provision make Malaysia as one of the most open countries after Singapore in terms of FDI Regulatory Restrictiveness Index issued by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (2014).

In the case of Philippines, no relationship between the two variables was found. This research finding strengthens the support for the research by Aga (2014) in Turkey and Herzer and Klasen (2008) which revealed no causal relationship in 16 out of 28 countries. There are several explanations for this. First, the direct spillover effects as capital accumulation, or the indirect effects such as technology and knowledge transfer does not happen as predicted by endogenous growth theory and the possibility of negative spillover effects (Yalta, 2013). This may happen because multinational companies try to protect their specific knowledge or foreign companies reduce the productivity of domestic companies through the effects of competition.

In terms of economy, unstable macroeconomic conditions, fluctuations in economic growth and low GDP of Philippines compared to ASEAN-5 economy during the research period also influence this relationship. Some macroeconomic variables in Philippines showed that the condition is not quite good compared to other ASEAN-5 countries. Furthermore, in terms of policy, Philippines is one of the countries that has the strictest regulation on the restrictions of foreign ownership compared to other ASEAN-5 countries. It is one of the factors that lead to the low flow of FDI in Philippines for decades. The number of restricted sectors makes the Philippines lagged the ASEAN-5 countries in attracting FDI. It is supported by a publication issued by the OECD in which Philippines is one of the most closed countries in the ASEAN as seen from FDI Regulatory Restrictiveness Index. Lastly, in terms of competitiveness and investment climate of Philippines based on Global Competitiveness Index issued by the World Economic Forum (2014), most of the indicators do not perform well if compared with the ASEAN-5 countries.

## **CONCLUSION**

The study examines the relationship between Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for ASEAN-5 countries between the periods of 1980 to 2014. The study uses a Toda-Yamamoto granger causality model to test the causality between the FDI

and the GDP. The results show that the ASEAN countries are differently in responding the impacts of FDI to the GDP. In general, the FDI leads to GNP in Singapore and Thailand while, in Indonesia and Malaysia, the GNP leads to FDI. In the case of Philippines, there is no causality relationship between the two variables found.

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