

ABSTRACT

The issue of environmental damage is a very important to be investigated because it can be a threat to sustainable economic development. This study aims to investigate empirically Environmental Kuznets Curve which is in theory in the form of an inverted U-letter. The majority of the literature on EKC still uses CO2 emission indicators to see the level of environmental degradation. Unlike the previous research, this study uses the concept of ecological footprint to see the level of environmental degradation. Investigating the EKC hypothesis in this study was carried out by looking at the influence of economic growth, population numbers, and international trade on ecological footprints in the BRICS country during the period 1992-2014. The method used in the study is panel data regression with the Fixed Effect Model. The results showed that the EKC hypothesis was proven in the BRICS country as indicated by the coefficient of economic growth with a positive sign, then quadratic economic growth had a negative coefficient on ecological footprint with a turning point value of US\$ 9,081.69. In addition, population variables have a positive and significant effect on the ecological footprint, while foreign direct investment has a negative and not significant effect on ecological footprint.

Keywords : Environmental Kuznets Curve, population, Foreign Direct Investment, Fixed Effect Model