

STANDPOINT

by Assoc. Prof. Ivan Yochev Boevski, PhD; New Bulgarian University, Department of Economics; Field of education 3.0 Social, economic and legal sciences, Professional field 3.8 Economics

Appointed as a member of the scientific jury by order according to Order № 3-PK-205/08.07.2020 of the Rector of NBU - Prof. Plamen Doinov

Ph.D. candidate - Vanya Ivanova Bankova, Self-study student in doctoral program "Organization and management of the non-production sphere (public administration)" – NBU

Topic of the dissertation: "Characteristics, functional imbalances and potential for rural development in the Republic of Bulgaria in the context of EU membership"

for

Obtaining the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the professional field: 3.7 Administration and management, scientific specialty Organization and management of the non-production sphere (public administration)

The opinion was prepared on the basis of Order № 3-PK-205 / 08.07.2020. In terms of content it is in compliance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria for the development of the academic staff at NBU and a model for the structure of an opinion of a scientific work for acquiring the educational and scientific degree "DOCTOR" of NBU.

In structural terms, the doctoral thesis is prepared in the classic model for Bulgaria and consists of an introduction, presentation in three chapters and conclusion. Each chapter ends with conclusions, which breaks the above model and complements it with elements of structures of doctoral theses of leading world universities. The total volume is 221 standard typewritten pages. 118 sources of information in Bulgarian and 58 sources in a foreign language were used. The text includes 13 tables, 11 diagrams and 1 figure. There are 9 tabular appendices to the dissertation.

1. Relevance and significance of the researched problem in scientific and scientific-applied relation

The student studies a multi-layered and complex problem related to the sustainability and viability of rural development in the Republic of Bulgaria, which occur in conditions of intense competition and imbalances. This context creates a number of problems, opportunities and challenges. Analyzing them, the author asks questions, seeks

answers and suggests solutions. All this justifies the relevance of the chosen topic on the one hand, as well as its scientific and scientifically applied significance on the other.

2. Justification of the goals and tasks in the dissertation

The dissertation is aimed at studying the characteristics and functional imbalances of rural areas in the Republic of Bulgaria based on historical analysis. On this basis, the areas of socio-economic life with the greatest potential for development of these areas are defined. The object of the research in the presented dissertation are the rural areas in the context of their economic, social, ecological and cultural development. In the context of the European policy for balanced and sustainable territorial development, the student analyzes and compares the Bulgarian potential for rural development with that in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Bulgaria. To achieve the above goal, the candidate formulates and develops four tasks. The above gives me reason to conclude that the purpose and objectives of the study are justified and precisely and clearly defined.

3. Correspondence between the chosen methodology and research methodology and the set goal and tasks of the dissertation

Properly selected and properly used methods provide an opportunity to adequately achieve research goals and objectives. The research thesis formulated for defense is confirmed in the course of the research and proves. The obtained results are presented in a way that allows their easy understanding. The candidate uses appropriate tools to illustrate the results.

4. Scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the dissertation

In the dissertation work an in-depth analysis of the researched problem is performed. The obtained results derive from the analysis and are correctly commented and interpreted. In this regard, I identify the following original creative author contributions:

Scientific contributions

1. A working definition of the term "rural area" has been developed;
2. A working definition has been developed, which characterizes the development of rural areas as a process;
3. A new principle has been formulated, called "Modeling" by the author, which refers to rural development at the local level.

Scientific and applied contributions

The scientific and applied contributions of the development are five in number and a significant part of them could be specifically used in practice, as well as the specific proposals for intervention made in connection with them.

5. Evaluation of the dissertation publications:

Three articles reflect the main results of the study, which are published in the yearbooks of the Departments of Administration and Management and Economics. The articles meet the necessary national minimum requirements for a Doctor's degree in the field. The presented abstract objectively reflects the structure and content of the dissertation.

6. Citation from other authors, reviews in the scientific press

No data available.

7. Opinions, recommendations and notes

The student could expand in the future and deepen the research on the topic and make an attempt to publish in scientific journals in Bulgaria and abroad.

CONCLUSION:

Based on the above, I make a reasonable conclusion that the candidate Vanya Ivanova Bankova in the competition for the award of educational and scientific degree "DOCTOR" meets the requirements.

In this regard, I propose to the Scientific Jury to vote positively for awarding the educational and scientific degree "DOCTOR" in the professional field: 3.7 Administration and management, scientific specialty Organization and management of the non-production sphere (public administration) of the candidate Vanya Ivanova Bankova - student in the doctoral program "Organization and management of the non-production sphere (public administration)" at NBU.

Sofia,
August 11, 2020

Assoc. Prof. Ivan Boevski, PhD