

To the Chairman of the Scientific Jury
to evaluate the dissertation thesis
of doctoral student Zhaneta Emilova Angelova
candidate for the award of the educational
and the scientific degree "Doctor"
in the doctoral programme "Finance, Money Circulation,
Credit and Insurance (Insurance and Social Security)"

Opinion

by Assoc. Prof. Reneta Marinova Dimitrova, PhD, NBU,
for obtaining the educational and scientific degree "Doctor"
with candidate Zhaneta Emilova Angelova

Subject: Dissertation on "Opportunities for Economic Regulation and Social Adaptation the Amounts of Pensions for Pensionable Service and Retirement Age in Bulgaria", with supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Rumen Erusalimov, PhD; Assoc. Prof. Ivan Grozdanov, PhD

The opinion is presented in accordance with Order № 521 from 5 July 2022 of the Rector of D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics - Svishtov

I. General presentation of the dissertation

PhD student Zhaneta Angelova announces as the **object** of her dissertation the functioning of pension insurance, perceived as a basic element of social security systems with a determining importance for achieving social security in modern society. As for the **subject** of the scientific research, these are the socio-economic characteristics of the public pension insurance and the organisational dimensions of the pensions for pensionable service and retirement age, as part of public pensions for labour activity in Bulgaria.

The dissertation has a classic **structure**, consisting of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion and cited sources. It is developed in a volume of 210 pages, of which 196 pages are the main text. It contains 19 figures and 22 tables. It is presented to the scientific community in 3 publications, of which one study, one article and one report. These publications are completely sufficient to meet the minimum national requirements for awarding of educational and scientific degree "Doctor".

PhD student Angelova has studied a significant volume of **scientific literature**, the list of which includes 154 sources – specialised literature in Bulgarian and English, normative documents. The volume of literature shows the author's in-depth awareness of the researched topics

II. Assessment of the form and content of the dissertation

The dissertation is dedicated to a topic of undisputed relevance. It is a fact that the pensions granted by the public pension insurance and, to the greatest extent, the pensions for pensionable service and retirement age, have long been in the focus of the public's attention, but in the last 2-3 years they have been the subject of serious discussions and disputes.

The doctoral student's interests in this field are focused on an in-depth and comprehensive study of public pension insurance and making reasoned proposals for the development and improvement of the organisational framework of public pensions for

pensionable service and retirement age in Bulgaria. The dissertation submitted for an opinion is assessed as a comprehensive and in-depth monographic research and development.

The author of the dissertation shows good skills in dealing with scientific concepts. The style is understandable and with the necessary logical consistency and connectedness of the expose.

The abstract corresponds to the content of the dissertation and reading it gives an idea of the scientific research carried out by the PhD student.

III. Scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the dissertation

The reference for the contributions in the dissertation is announced as a composition of the author's abstract. My assessment of the contributions is that they are significant and represent the scientific and scientific-applied qualities of the dissertation work. The most important of them are:

First. The theoretical contribution of the PhD student is the summarisation and systematisation of the content characteristics of public pension insurance and the socio-economic specifics of pensions for pensionable service and retirement age.

Second. Also as a theoretical contribution can be defined the systematisation of the organisational aspects of public old-age pension insurance, taking into account the interconnection between the economic foundation and the social dimensions of pensions for pensionable service and retirement age in our country.

Third. As a contribution of a scientific and applied nature can be defined the evaluation, made by the doctoral student, of the development and state of pensions for pensionable service and retirement age in Bulgaria during the period 2000 – 2022, as a basis for reasoned identification of main problems in the mechanism of determining and updating their amounts.

Fourth. Contributions of a scientific and applied nature are the proposals made by the doctoral student for the development and improvement of the organisational framework of pensions for pensionable service and retirement age by switching to a two-component model of their size formation.

IV. Questions on the dissertation

I have no significant critical comments on the dissertation. I would like PhD student Angelova to give me an expert advice: Should I transfer my Pension Benefit Statement for a second pension from Allianz Bulgaria Pension Company to NSSI?

V. Summary evaluation of the dissertation and conclusion

Based on all of the above, it can be concluded that doctoral student **Zhaneta Emilova Angelova** has very good theoretical and practical training on the topic of the dissertation. shows the ability to identify important problems at methodological and practical-applied level and to conduct independent scientific research. As a member of the scientific jury, I will vote with conviction for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" to **PhD student Zhaneta Emilova Angelova.**

21 July 2022

Prepared the opinion:

Assoc. Prof. Reneta Dimitrova, PhD

The signature was deleted on the basis of Article 4, Paragraph 1 of Regulation 679/2016.