

To the Chairman of the Scientific Jury
for evaluating a dissertation of PhD student
Borislav Petrov Lazarov candidate for the award
of the educational and the scientific degree "Doctor"
in Ph.D program "Finance, money circulation, credit
and insurance' (Finance)

S t a n d p o i n t

by Prof. Dr. Reneta Marinova Dimitrova, NBU,
for the acquisition of the scientific degree "doctor"
with candidate Borislav Petrov Lazarov

Subject: Dissertation work on the topic " Financial management of investments in the republican and cross-border transport network ",
with scientific supervisor Prof. Dr. Stoyan Prodanov

The opinion is presented according to Order No. 680 of July 8, 2024 of the Rector of the SA "D. A. Tsenov" - Svishtov

I. General presentation of the dissertation work

Doctoral student Borislav Petrov Lazarov announces the republican and cross-border transport network as the subject of his dissertation. As for the subject of scientific research, it is the financial management of investments in the transport network - republican and cross-border - to ensure the increasing intensity of traffic of motor vehicles, passengers and goods.

The dissertation has a classic structure consisting of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, a list of figures, a list of tables, appendices and a bibliography. The same was developed in a volume of 193 pages, of which 160 pages are the main text. It contains 54 figures and 30 tables. He was presented to the scientific community in 6 publications, of which one study, one article and four reports, of which 3 were co-authored and 1 independent. These publications are fully sufficient to fulfill the minimum national requirements for the award of the ONS "Doctor".

Doctoral student Lazarov has studied a significant volume of scientific literature, the list of which includes 90 sources. The volume of literature shows the in-depth knowledge of the author on the subject he researches.

II. Evaluation of the form and content of the dissertation work

The dissertation is devoted to a topic of undisputed relevance. The problems of the rapid increase in the number and tonnage of motor vehicles compared to the state of the transport infrastructure are on the agenda for our country, considering its strategic location not only in the Balkans, but also in South-Eastern Europe. The author has rightly emphasized that in our country there should be accelerated and large-scale investment in transport infrastructure.

The doctoral student's interests in this field are focused on a thorough and comprehensive study of the investment needs, programs and projects in Bulgaria and Europe, through which to develop a sustainable road infrastructure that successfully integrates the republic into the European cross-border transport network. The dissertation submitted for opinion is assessed as a comprehensive and in-depth monographic research and development.

The author of the dissertation shows good skills in handling scientific concepts. The style is comprehensible and with the necessary logical consistency and connectedness of the exposition.

The abstract corresponds to the content of the dissertation work and by reading it one gets an idea of the scientific research carried out by the doctoral student.

III. Scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the dissertation work

The reference to the contributions in the dissertation work is declared as a composition of the abstract. My assessment of the contributions is that they are substantial and represent the scientific and scientific-applied qualities of the dissertation work. The most important of them:

First. The doctoral student's theoretical contribution is the inferred interrelationship between the sustainable development of the road network of the Republic of Bulgaria and the European Union and the need not only for a constant analysis of the state of the republican and cross-border transport network, but also for timely rehabilitation and maintenance, which will make it possible to identify the problem areas requiring investment in maintenance and expansion of their capacity.

Second. The assessment of transit traffic through Bulgaria in 2023 based on statistical processing of monthly traffic data on the load on the main routes within the integrated national road network of the Republic of Bulgaria in the Trans-European transport network is accepted as an attached contribution.

Third. As a contribution of a scientific-applied nature, a successfully substantiated and approved by the doctoral student benchmark approach for effective and prospective financial management of investments in the road sector can be defined, with an emphasis on overcoming the economic backwardness of Northern Bulgaria in terms of the density of the road network from high class.

IV. Dissertation questions

I have no significant critical comments on the dissertation work. I would like doctoral student Lazarov to present and comment before the scientific jury, if possible, information on how many times the subsequent costs for a given road section increase as a result of delayed replacement of the worn asphalt layer.

V. Summary evaluation of the dissertation work and conclusion

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

22/07/2024

Prepared the opinion: Prof. Dr. Reneta