

STATEMENT
for the acquisition of an educational and scientific degree "doctor"
in SA "D. A. Tsenov" - Svishtov

The statement was prepared by: Assoc. Professor Dr. Yanko Chavdarov Hristozov

Author of the dissertation: Martin Nikolaev Harizanov

Dissertation Topic: "FINANCING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTHWEST PLANNING DISTRICT"

Research supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ludmil Boyanov Krastev

I. General presentation of the dissertation:

1. The subject of research in the dissertation work, developed by doctoral student Martin Harizanov, is the financial provision of the development of the North-West planning region. The object of study is the North-West Planning Region. The research thesis and tasks are correctly formulated. The aim is linked to the attempt to study the genesis of the lag in the development of the North-West Planning Region and to substantiate the positive effect of catch-up and convergence.
2. The dissertation has a total volume of 187 standard pages, of which 154 pages are the main text. The figures used are 41 and the tables 24. There is no list of abbreviations, tables and figures that would facilitate the reader.
3. The dissertation is structured in three chapters. In the first chapter, the Northwest Planning Region is considered as an object of the regional financial and economic analysis. In the second chapter, an attempt is made for a theoretical-methodological analysis of the economic condition of the northwestern planning region, and the third chapter is a practical-applied study of the possibilities of financing the development of the northwestern planning region. The choice of topic is motivated, but the title should have been formulated more correctly.
4. The literary sources used are 134. Several authoritative and up-to-date publications by Bulgarian and foreign authors are cited.
5. In the appendices, the author has presented part of the data such as the development indices of the NUTS 2 regions in Bulgaria and Romania.

II. Assessment of the form and content of the dissertation.

1. The topic of the dissertation is relevant and relevant. It provides prerequisites for making a serious and comprehensive analysis regarding the financial provision for the development of the North-West planning region. The relevance of the problem is related to the current

economic situation and the prospects for the development of the North-West planning region with a view to overcoming the objective divergence compared to the rest of the country and the European Union in general.

2. The scope of the dissertation work suggests good opportunities for theoretical research, in-depth empirical research, analysis, and commentary. The style is scholarly and suitable for this type of research, but serious language editing is needed, there are technical, spelling and punctuation errors, especially in the abstract. There are sentences that do not make sense or are incomplete (ex. p.10). There are sentences that do not make sense or are incomplete. There are errors in some tables (ex p. 104).

3. The abstract should present the most important theoretical and practical conclusions of the dissertation. In this case, I recommend a more in-depth advocacy of the practical results. The abstract has a limited amount of information, but in my opinion the obtained results should have been presented in more detail. In general, the structure of the abstract is good and presents almost all the main points of the dissertation work.

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

1. The main contributions of the dissertation work, which are of key importance for the abstract, have been successfully highlighted. Particularly important is the developed perspective spatial model with a reasoned proposal for sustainable rezoning and ensuring the regional development of Bulgaria, in particular the North-West planning region.

2. The author has three publications, one study and two articles, and the total number of points is 35, which exceeds the required 30.

IV. Dissertation questions.

1. What is the genesis of the backwardness in terms of economic and socio-demographic indicators of the North-West planning region compared to other planning regions in the country?

2. What basic financial and economic indicators is your research based on? What other financial and economic indicators would be appropriate to apply?

V. Summary evaluation of the dissertation work and conclusion.


The dissertation contains scientific, scientific-applied results, which represent an original contribution to science and meet all the requirements of the Law on the development of the academic staff in the RB and the Regulations for the implementation of Law. The presented

materials and dissertation results fully correspond to the specific requirements of CA "D. A. Tsenov", Svishtov.

The dissertation shows that the PhD student Martin Harizanov has in-depth theoretical knowledge and professional skills in Professional direction 3.8. Economics, demonstrating qualities and skills for independent conduct of scientific research. These notes do not detract from the merits of the dissertation.

Due to the above, I confidently give my positive assessment of the conducted research, presented by the above-reviewed dissertation, abstract, achieved results and contributions, and I propose to the honorable scientific jury *to award the educational and scientific degree "doctor" to Martin Harizanov in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic, and legal sciences; Professional direction 3. 8. Economics; PhD program "Finance, Money Circulation, Credit and Insurance (Finance)".*

Date: 25.07.2022



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yanko Hristozov