



## POSITION

by Prof. Dr. Tsvetka Atanasova Stoencheva

University of National and World Economy - Sofia

**Subject :** Acquisition of educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in Area 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional field 3.8 Economics, under the doctoral program "National Economy (incl. Regional economy and history of the national economy)".

**Grounds for the submission of the review :** Order № 1123 / 20.05 0.2021 , the Trakia University.

**Author of the dissertation:** Petya Dobrinova Atanasova

**Topic of the dissertation:**

"The intelligent specialization of the regional economy (the example of Yambol district)"

### 1. Information for the doctoral student :

Petya Dobrinova Atanasova is a part-time doctoral student at the Department of Regional Development at the Faculty of Economics at the Trakia University

The dissertation was discussed at an extended department council in the Department of Regional Development, at the Faculty of Economics of the Trakia University and is directed for a defence in front of a scientific jury.

The doctoral student has fulfilled all the requirements by passing all the exams and has made the necessary volume of publications.

### 2. General characteristics of the dissertation.

The dissertation includes an introduction, three chapters and a conclusion, a list of figures, a list of tables, a list of appendices and references.

The dissertation is 222 pages long. Includes 45 figures, 27 tables and 14 appendices.

The list of used literature is from 179 sources, 32 of them in Bulgarian and 105 in English, 29 normative documents, 13 internet addresses.

**The submitted for evaluation dissertation, has a well-balanced structure and there is consistency between chapters.**

The introduction presents the topicality of the topic, formulates the purpose, tasks, subject, object and thesis of the dissertation. The methods of analysis and the limitations of the conducted research are presented.

In the three chapters of the dissertation the theoretical bases of the specialization of the regional economy, the intelligent specialization in Bulgaria and the specialization of the regional economy in Yambol district are considered.

The conclusion shows the results of the study and the most important conclusions.

The indicated volume is sufficient to present the results of the research conducted by the doctoral student.

The literature is correctly cited and shows significant awareness of the author on the topic of the dissertation.

### **3. Positive qualities of the dissertation.**

- The topic is dissertable and current. There is a specific practical orientation.
- The name of the topic is original.
- There is a logical connection between the different parts of the dissertation.
- The literary sources are comprehensive enough.
- The object, the subject, the tasks of the main thesis are correctly formulated.
- The doctoral student's own view is expressed in the conclusions after each chapter.

### **4 . Evaluation of the obtained scientific and scientifically applied results**

1. An original definition of intelligent specialization has been formulated.
2. A specific approach for analysis of the intelligent specialization of the regional economy has been developed.
3. Specific indicators taking into account the specialization of a region are proposed.
4. On the basis of an in-depth 10-year analysis, the tendencies in the economic development of Yambol district are presented, which can serve for the future intelligent specialization of Yambol district.

5. Specific recommendations have been made aimed at the intelligent specialization of Yambol district.

**I believe that the scientific and applied scientific contributions are personal work of the doctoral student.**

#### **5. Evaluation of the dissertation publications.**

The doctoral student points out 3 independent publications on the topic of the dissertation.

The publications indicated by the doctoral student have been reported at representative scientific forums and have received the necessary publicity.

#### **6. Evaluation of the abstract**

The abstract accurately reflects all the main points in the dissertation. It focuses on the research, convincingly presents the author's solutions and the obtained scientific and applied results.

The abstract of the dissertation in its structure and content accurately reflects the essence of the study.

#### **7. Notes and questions**

I recommend the candidate to continue participating in international scientific forums abroad and involvement in scientific and applied research projects.

#### **8. Conclusion**

The dissertation examines a significant problem. The author shows that she is able to conduct independent research, develop tools and formulate sound conclusions.

The main goal of the dissertation has been achieved and the specific tasks have been solved. The thesis of the study is proven.

**Based on the submitted documents and research work and the contribution moments from the research I can conclude that the candidate Petya Atanasova meets the requirements and I recommend the respected members of the scientific jury to support a decision "FOR" awarding the educational and scientific degree**

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economy and history of the national economy)".**

**June 15, 2021**

**Sofia**

**Reviewer**

**Prof. Dr. Tsv. Stoencheva**

**Заличено!**