

POSITION

by

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National Military University "Vasil Levski" Veliko Tarnovo
Field of higher education 3. "Social, economic and legal sciences",
Professional field 3.7. "Administration and Management"
Scientific specialty "Organization and management outside the field of material
production (security and defense)"

on the dissertation of Elena Mitova Kamenova
on "IMPACT OF THE DEMOGRAPHIC SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF
BULGARIA ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN CAPITAL AND SILVER
ECONOMY AFTER 1990"

submitted for the award of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor",
in a professional direction 3.7. "Administration and Management",
Doctoral Program: Regional Development

1. Relevance and significance of the elaborated scientific problem

The presented dissertation examines current scientific issues about the country and the world. The rapid development of new technologies has completely changed the framework and directions of modern life. Its impact is in all areas but the most evident is the one in demography. Population ageing is a dominant demographic trend in the 21st century. It reflects increasing life expectancy and declining fertility. The dissertation examines the dynamics of the demographic processes in Bulgaria over the past 30 years which have impact on all aspects of the socio-economic life.

The dissertation has a total volume of 266 pages and is structured as follows: introduction, presentation in three chapters, conclusion, bibliography and appendices. The presented literature includes 206 sources of which 22 in Bulgarian, 129 in Latin, normative and legal literature 2 sources and 53 Internet sources.

The dissertation examines two key factors that influence the development of the modern knowledge-based economy, namely human capital and the "silver" economy. Emphasis is placed on the important role of human capital for economic development, labor productivity and innovation. The connection of the "silver"

economy with productions, services, including educational ones, aimed at the elderly is considered. The concept for the 'silver economy' refers to a wide range of activities that meet the needs of elderly people as consumers. In this regard, a theoretical overview of the basic concepts and classifications related to the development of the "silver" economy in the context of population ageing is done. Theories of population ageing and its impact on economic growth and productivity are discussed. Two successful models of the "silver" economy are presented - in Germany and Japan. Specific recommendations have been formulated for the development of the "silver" economy in the country.

The dissertation is developed in accordance with the set goal, research tasks, object and subject of research.

For greater specificity and significance of the research, admissible limitations related to the scope of research and analysis have been defined. This is the period from 1990 to 2019.

Several scientific methods are used in the dissertation - analysis and synthesis, induction and deduction, historical method, method of hypotheses. In addition, demographic methods, mathematical-statistical methods and graphoanalytical methods were used. For convenience in use and visual illustration, the final results obtained are indicated in finished form using figures and tables.

The content of the dissertation completely corresponds to its topic. The set goals and research tasks have been fully achieved.

The presented dissertation is developed logically and consistently. The author shows a very good command of the terminology on the subject. She used a rich toolkit of research and analysis methods and a significant database.

The volume of the dissertation is optimal from the point of view of integrity and completeness of the research, and from the point of view of the requirements for acquiring PhD degree.

The abstract is developed in a volume of 56 pages and correctly reflects the content of the dissertation.

2. Assessment of the scientific results and contributions of the thesis

The presented dissertation on "Impact of the demographic situation on the development of human capital and the "silver" economy of the Republic of Bulgaria after 1990" has clearly expressed scientific contributions. I accept the contributions formulated by the author with theoretical - methodological and applied character, namely:

1. A theoretical review of the development of the concept of human capital, its formation and methods for its measurement. Scientific theories and

research on the relationship between human capital and economic growth are discussed in detail.

2. A generalized understanding and theoretical overview of the basic concepts and classifications related to the development of the "silver" economy in the context of population ageing is proposed. Theories of population ageing and its impact on economic growth and productivity are discussed. Two successful models of the "silver" economy are presented - in Germany and Japan. Specific recommendations have been formulated for the development of the "silver" economy in the country.

3. An assessment and analysis of the demographic situation in Bulgaria has been made, considering the main factors and indicators that determine the demographic development of the country.

4. The potential of human capital and its components in Bulgaria by planning regions between 2000 and 2019 has been studied by using the statistical method.

The scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the dissertation can be referred to the following groups:

1. addition to an existing theory or methodology, which increases its validity or expands the field of its application;

2. application of an existing theory or methodology for solution, explanation or analysis of specific socio-economic problems or processes with formulated conclusions and recommendations for management practice.

The author has presented 4 scientific reports on the topic of the dissertation. Three of the publications are independent, one is co-authored with the supervisor.

3. Critical remarks and recommendations

A very detailed version of the Introduction is presented which could be presented much more concisely and proportionately. There are minor technical and debatable omissions that do not reduce the scientific value of the work but would improve future scientific publications of the author. For greater systematization of the study, I recommend the drafting of conclusions after each chapter. I recommend to the author to continue her scientific research and to publish her scientific works in publications abroad.

4. Conclusion

The dissertation and the author's abstract of Elena Mitova Kamenova fully meet the requirements of the Law for the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the regulations for its implementation and the minimum national requirements for acquiring educational and science degree Doctor in Professional Field 3.7. Administration and Management.

5. Assessment of the dissertation

In conclusion, taking into account the merits of the dissertation, as well as the achieved scientific and scientific-applied results, I give my positive assessment and suggest to the esteemed members of the scientific jury the award of the scientific and educational degree "Doctor" in professional field 3.7. Administration and Management, Doctoral Program "Regional Development" to PhD student Elena Mitova Kamenova.

08.04.2022
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