



OPINION

on a dissertation for obtaining the educational and scientific degree
"Doctor" in: field of higher education 3.0 Social, economic and legal
sciences, professional field 3.8 Economics, scientific specialty
"Economics and Management (Agriculture)"

Author of the dissertation: Butrint Yusuf Bytichi, doctoral student in
independent study at the Department of Economics at the Agricultural
University, Plovdiv

Topic of the dissertation:

**THE ROLE OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO**

Reviewer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alexander Krasimirov Davchev, University of
Agribusiness and Rural Development - Plovdiv, Area of Higher education 3.0
Social, Economic and Legal Sciences, professional field 3.8 Economics,
scientific specialty "Economics and Management (Tourism)", appointed as a
member of the scientific jury by order No. RD-16-970/03.10.2025 by the Rector
of the Agricultural University.

1. Relevance of the problem.

The topic is particularly relevant because historically, agriculture has
always been a foundation in the economic development of the Republic of
Kosovo, especially at the regional level in its attempt to minimize socio-
economic disparities in places. As one of the youngest countries in Europe with
a predominantly rural population, it also has a certain potential that has not yet
been sufficiently developed. Moreover, in the context of deepening integration

between the country and the EU, it would acquire even greater significance. This also provoked the scientific interest of the doctoral student and is the reason for presenting this study.

2. Purpose, tasks, hypotheses and research methods.

The study focuses on the agricultural sector of the Republic of Kosovo, examining its importance in the broader context of the country's economic development. The main goal is to analyze the role of agriculture in the sustainable economic development of Kosovo through the use of qualitative methods, econometric analysis and literature review. To achieve this goal, some tasks have been formulated, developed in the course of the study.

3. Visualization and presentation of the obtained results.

The obtained results are well illustrated, with the help of figures, tables and diagrams, which bring a high level of visualization. The three chapters presented are balanced and in terms of volume, structure and presentation meet the established standards. The obtained results and the corresponding conclusions are clearly and understandably presented, and the conclusions meet the set goals and objectives of the study. The study is wide-ranging and reflects the problem in a multifaceted way.

4. Discussion of the results and literature used.

The numerous literature used in the course of the work is impressive, with English-language literature strongly prevailing, in which language the dissertation itself is presented. The references and cross-references are present and convey the scientific nature of the work.

5. Contributions of the dissertation.

The presented dissertation undoubtedly has its contributions and strengths, which could be considered as follows:

Scientific contributions

The study systematically links classical theories of economic growth with modern endogenous approaches, providing a comprehensive conceptual framework for the analysis of small economies with a significant role of the agricultural sector. It adapts the existing EU CAP and seeks a link between macroeconomic stability and agricultural development, emphasizing competitiveness.

Scientific and applied contributions

It can be assumed that sufficient empirical evidence has been provided for the role of agriculture in Kosovo's economic growth, and specific policy recommendations for the modernization of agriculture and integration into the EU have been made, and structural gaps in the implementation of agricultural policy have been identified.

6. Critical remarks and questions.

Despite the certain merits of the dissertation work, there are also some weaknesses that do not belittle the efforts of the candidate. I have no critical remarks and questions, only one recommendation:

- the restrictions introduced in the scope of the study could be better specified. In any case, the topic is quite broad and cannot be comprehensively clarified based on a single study.

7. Published articles and citations.

The doctoral student presents 3 publications (3 articles), thereby meeting national requirements. The presented abstract objectively reflects the structure and content of the dissertation work.

CONCLUSION:

Based on the various research methods learned and applied by the doctoral student, the correctly conducted experiments, the generalizations and

conclusions made, I believe that the presented dissertation fulfill the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations of the Agricultural University for its application, which gives me reason to evaluate it **POSITIVELY**

I would like to propose to the esteemed Scientific Jury to also vote **positively** and award **Butrint Yusuf Bytichi** the educational and scientific degree “doctor” in the area of higher education 3.0 Social, economic and legal sciences, professional field 3.8 Economics, the scientific specialty “Economics and Management (Agriculture)”.

Date: 30.10.2025
city of Plovdiv

OPINION: PREPARED BY
(Assoc. Prof., Dr. Alexander Davchev)