

REVIEW



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

Author of the dissertation work:

Erbliina Rahim Pira, PhD student at the Department of economics, Agricultural University – Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Topic of the dissertation work:

„ECONOMIC GROWTH AS A FACTOR OF SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – CASE OF REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO“

Reviewer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Minko Atanasov Georgiev, Agricultural University – Plovdiv, area of higher education 3.0 Social, economic and legal sciences, professional field 3.8 Economics, scientific specialty "Economics and management (agriculture)", appointed as a member of the scientific jury by order № **RD-16-548/25.06.2020** of the Rector of Agricultural University – Plovdiv.

1. Relevance of the problem.

Economic growth has been a fundamental problem, both theoretically and practically, for any economy. It is good that the candidate is linking it to sustainable development. With such interweaving of doctrines, the dissertation has a sufficient scientific charge. I believe that the topic is relevant and of great public importance.

2. Purpose, tasks, hypotheses and research methods.

The main purpose of the study is to illustrate the socio-economic relationship between: (1) investment, employment, trade balance and agriculture (economic factors); (2) education level and poverty (social factors); (3) CO₂ emissions and the environment (environmental factors); They all impact on the dynamic and the constant economic growth, which creates preconditions for sustainable economic development.

In this regard, I believe that the candidate correctly sets the tasks, based on which to assess the interaction between them.

Eight hypotheses are made. We can draw a clear conclusion from them. The methods used are diverse. Statistical and heuristic methods correspond well with hypotheses. Analyses: PEST, SWOT well assess the impact of political, economic and environmental factors.

3. Visualization and presentation of the obtained results.

The sources of information are sufficient for a doctoral thesis - 255. The analysis is based on 41 tables and 22 figures, which help the understanding of the results. I believe that the format of the dissertation looks good in accordance with the requirements for a doctoral thesis.

4. Discussion of the results and used literature.

The first chapter is theoretical. In this part is demonstrated knowledge of the theories of economic growth and sustainable development. The macroeconomic environment in the Republic of Kosovo is well represented. A connection is made correctly between the theories. The PhD student uses the following indicators in the research: Gross Domestic Product, Public Debt, Trade, Money Transfers, and Foreign Direct Investment.

The second chapter is methodological. The candidate has successfully adapted the research methodology for the purpose of the study. In this part of the dissertations she demonstrated enviable knowledge in describing specific methods. Due to this, the connection between the theory and the obtained results is clearly illustrated. I believe that the methodology is suitable for the research.

The third chapter is analytical and ascertaining. It is built on the results of research. Hypotheses illustrating the links between economic growth and sustainable development are confirmed or rejected.

The fourth chapter is constructive. Conclusions and recommendations are made logically. They can serve to build a model of political change. I believe that is enough for in-depth research.

5. Contributions of the dissertation.

The contributions of the dissertation are formulated in accordance with the scientific ethics.

Scientific contributions

I agree that there is a contribution in the direction of clarifying the economic growth, its factor dependency and its connection to the sustainable development of Republic of Kosovo.

I agree that there is a contribution in the field of methodology adaption for analyzing and assessing the impact of the macroeconomic indicators on economic growth and sustainable development.

Scientific and applied contributions

I agree that the correlations between economic growth and sustainable development have been assessed correctly. There is a contribution.

I agree that the comparative analysis of the indicators for sustainable economic development of Kosovo and other countries in the region can be a basis for the formation of new policies. There is a contribution.

I agree that the recommendations for improving the business environment and creating the preconditions for sustainable economic, social and environmental development of the Republic of Kosovo can serve as a model for future change. There is a contribution.

6. Critical remarks and questions.

There is a certain disproportion between Chapter 2 (methodology) and the other parts of the dissertation. Some of the mentions and citations in the text are done in a way that is not typical for such investigation, but this however, can be considered as an original approach of the author.

7. Published articles and citations.

Erbolina Rahim Pira has published three scientific papers. The articles are in line with the requirements of the Law for the development of academic staff.

The autoreferate reflects correctly the structure and content of the dissertation.

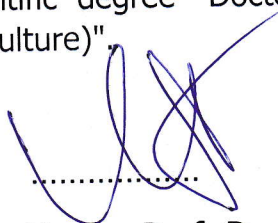
CONCLUSION:

Based on the various research methods learned and applied by the PhD student, the correctly performed experiments, the summaries and conclusions made, I believe that the presented dissertation meets the requirements of the Law for the development of academic staff in 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 suggest to the Scientific Jury, to also vote in favor of awarding Erblina Rahim Pira with the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the scientific specialty "Economics and Management (Agriculture)".

Date: 30.07.2020

Plovdiv



(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Minko Georgiev)