



## SCIENTIFIC OPINION

on dissertation for obtaining the educational and scientific degree "doctor" in: field of higher education 3.0 "Social, Business and Legal Sciences", professional field 3.8 "Economics", scientific specialty "Organization and management (agriculture and sub-sectors)"

**Author of the dissertation:** JEVDET FEHMI BUSHI

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**Dissertation Topic:** DEVELOPMENT OF THE ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY OF VINEYARDS IN KOSOVO

**Prepared by:** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Biserov Nikolov, University of National and World Economy – Sofia, 3.0 "Social, Economic and Legal Sciences", 3.7 "Administration and Management", appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury with Order № РД-16-1076/25.11.2020 by the Rector of the Agricultural University, Plovdiv

### 1. Relevance of the problem

The scientific problem analyzed in the dissertation research is of current importance both in terms of research on vineyards in the Republic of Kosovo and the importance of the sector for the economic development of the region. The author convincingly shows his motives for choosing a dissertation topic, referring to the identified deficits in the development of the market and seeks to assess the economic sustainability of vineyards in Kosovo.

### 2. Purpose, tasks, hypotheses and methods of research

The aim of the dissertation is to assess the economic sustainability of vineyards in Kosovo and on this basis to develop guidelines for its improvement.

To achieve this goal, the author sets the following research tasks:

- Clarification of the nature and content of the vineyard as a system resistant to environmental influences;
- Clarification of the essence of economic sustainability as an element of effective management of the vineyard;
- Development of methodological approaches and methodology for studying the economic sustainability of the vineyard;
- Establishing the state and trends in the development of the main factors for the development of the economic sustainability of the viticulture;
- Assessment of the economic sustainability of the organizational forms of vineyard management in Kosovo;
- Development of guidelines for increasing the economic sustainability of vineyards in Kosovo.

I consider it appropriate to select and use scientific research methods, among which stand out the performance of systematic, comparative and graphical analysis; application of static methods; use of specialized software packages SPSS, MS Excel, etc.

### **3. Visualization and presentation of the results obtained**

The dissertation is structured in an introduction, three chapters and a conclusion with a total volume of 122 (one hundred and twenty-two) pages, used literature and appendices. The study is illustrated with 14 figures and 16 tables and 3 appendices. 142 literature sources are cited. The figures and tables used present in detail the information gathered from the research. A significant amount of statistical information on the state of the wine sector in Kosovo has been systematized and processed. The work shows that PhD student Jevdet Bushi has accumulated in-depth theoretical and practical knowledge, interprets freely specialized terminology, has a high level of methodological tools and is able to conduct independent research.

### **4. Discussion of the results and the literature used**

In the dissertation presented to me for an opinion, an extensive literature review of the problem related to the management of agricultural holdings was made. The bibliographic reference is rich and includes over 107 (one hundred and seven), monographs, textbooks, scientific publications, normative documents, electronic resources, analytical reports and others.

The distinctive characteristics and specifics of the vineyards on the territory of the Republic of Kosovo are defined. The author has thoroughly studied the factors that shape the price of wine products. The role of the economic analysis is convincingly substantiated, which is aimed at establishing: the resource security of the vineyard (land, machinery, animals, labor, etc.); the productivity of the factors of production, expressed through the natural and value indicators per unit area occupied in production; the final economic results, measured by the aggregate product, the income from the production activity, the gross production, the income from the agricultural activity. Also the technical and economic analysis, which is used to determine the comparative efficiency of individual production plots and vine varieties. The main indicator in the technical and economic analysis is the difference between revenues and variable costs (gross income). A production is efficient and sustainable when the gross income is greater than the fixed costs per unit area or per animal. Third, the financial analysis that the author uses to prove four groups of indicators: liquidity, asset efficiency, financial independence and profitability. Each group contains several coefficients. In the analysis we use the coefficient for profitability of production, measured by revenue efficiency, cost efficiency, capital efficiency, measuring return on capital invested in production.

The analytical part of the dissertation examines in detail the employment by types of vineyards in the Republic of Kosovo, as the farms are differentiated according to the type of employment of the workers, i.e. working only in the vineyard, working mainly in the vineyard and working secondarily in the vineyard. The analysis of the degree of concentration and intensification of grape production shows the following: Wineries and wine cellars have the highest level of concentration and intensification of wine production. In these farms the indicators have the highest values of the studied groups of vineyards. Agricultural production cooperatives, although ranked second in terms of the degree of concentration of production, have a lower intensification of production in vineyards than the one established in the group of sole proprietorships.

The doctoral student was able to identify the problems and propose a "Theoretical model for increasing economic sustainability." The author's empirical research deserves high praise and proved that the organizational form of vineyards affects their level of economic sustainability. In 81% of the statistical hypotheses presented for verification, a statistically significant relationship is found between the type of organizational form and the indicators characterizing the economic sustainability. On the basis of the problem-oriented analysis and the results of the survey, the proof of the author's thesis and the working hypotheses placed at the beginning of the work is

argued.

In conclusion, the dissertation summarizes that increasing the economic sustainability of vineyards in Kosovo is in the consolidation of arable vineyards and integration with the processing industry.

### **5. Contributions to the thesis**

In my dissertation presented for opinion, the following contribution points of scientific and scientific-applied nature can be brought out:

- The essence of the vineyard and the management of its economic sustainability is clarified;
- A conceptual framework for assessing the economic sustainability of the vineyard has been developed;
- The level of economic sustainability of the vineyards as well as the factors that determine it are analyzed and assessed;
- A theoretical model for increasing the sectoral sustainability as well as a model of cooperation for better economic sustainability of the vineyards is proposed.

### **6. Critical notes and questions**

There are no conclusions after the end of separate chapters, as well as author's reflections on basic definitions and formulations. My remarks do not harm the merits of the dissertation and I hope the author to upgrade his research on the chosen topic and publish the results in the form of a monograph to be useful to society and farmers wishing to engage professionally in this activity.

### **7. Published articles and citations**

PhD student Cevjet Bushi has submitted 5 (five) scientific publications, three independent and one co-authored:

1. Marketingu mix si koncept me rendesi I marketingut dhe elaborimi I produktit si faze e rendesishme e marketingut mix



2. Menaxhimi I prokurimeve me vlera te mesme pune ne Republiken e Kosoves sipas Ligjit 04/L-042

3. Marketingu dhe zhvillimi ekonomik ne ndermarrje te vogla dhe te mesme ne Kosove

4. Marketingu I turizmit malor ne Sharr dhe Rodope te Hanit te Elezit

5. Marketing as a Factor for Development of SMEs in Kosovo - IMPACT FACTOR

For the presented publications the author declares a table with a total number of 35 points min., required and set in his individual plan. The presented materials correspond directly to the topic of the dissertation research and contribute sufficiently to the wider public dissemination of the ideas, formulations and results of the research. The abstract correctly reflects the content and the main provisions of the dissertation, presenting correctly in a synthesized form the results of the research. In accordance with the requirements, a reference to the contributions and the list of publications on the topic of the dissertation are provided.


#### CONCLUSION:

I believe that the presented dissertation meets the requirements of the Law on Agricultural Research and the Regulations of the Agricultural University for its application, which gives me reason to evaluate it POSITIVE.

Allow me to propose to the Honorable Scientific Jury to vote "FOR" and to award Mr. **Jevdet Fehmi Bushi** the educational and scientific degree "**Doctor**" in the professional field 3.8. "Economics", the scientific specialty "Organization and Management (Agriculture and Subsectors)".

Date: 15/01/20201

Sofia, BG

Prepare by opinion: 

(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Nikolov)