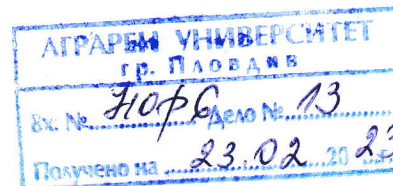


# REVIEW



on the dissertation work for obtaining an educational and scientific degree "doctor" in the field of higher education: 3 "Social, economic and equal sciences", professional direction: 3.8 "Economics", scientific specialty: "Organization and management of production (agriculture and subsectors)".

The author of the dissertation is ATIDZE BAYRYAMOVA ALIEVA-VELI, a doctoral student of self-study at the Department of "Management and Marketing" with the topic of the dissertation: "Role of CAP in promoting the innovation process in agriculture".

**Reviewer:** professor doctor Ivan Yochev Boevski, New Bulgarian University, Sofia, area of higher education: 3. Social, economic and equal sciences, professional direction: 3.8 Economics, scientific specialty: Economics and management appointed as chairman of the scientific jury by order No. RD 16 -1313/19.12.2022 of the Rector of the Agricultural University.

## 1. Brief introduction of the candidate.

Atidje Aliyeva was born on September 18, 1981. In 2014, she graduated with an educational and qualification degree - "master" in public administration with a specialization - state administration at the University of National and World Economy (UNSS). The bachelor's degree is in the field of biotechnology and the doctorate is completed at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" Sofia. In 2022, Mrs. Aliyeva was enrolled in an independent form of study at AU - Plovdiv in the Department of "Management and Marketing".

## 2. Relevance of the problem.

Innovation in the agricultural sector in today's market conditions is one of the main competitive factors. In recent years, one can see a clearly expressed desire of politicians to format the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in the direction of accelerated implementation of innovations with a view to protecting the environment and human health. Special structures such as the European Institute of Innovation and Technology have been created, through which the innovative approach is promoted as leading in the management of agricultural holdings and the sector as a whole. That is why I think that the chosen topic is relevant and interesting.

### **3. Purpose, tasks, hypotheses and research methods.**

The aim of the dissertation is to analyze the conditions that the CAP creates for the innovation process in agricultural holdings. The realization of the goal set in this way is carried out through the resolution of the following scientific and research tasks:

1. Clarification of the essence and role of innovations in the management of agricultural holdings;
2. Clarifying the nature of the CAP and its role in promoting innovation in agriculture;
3. Development of a conceptual framework for evaluating the innovation process in agricultural holdings and for evaluating the impact of the CAP on this process;
4. Analyzing and evaluating the factors of the innovation process in the agricultural sector;
5. Analyzing and evaluating the impact of the CAP on the innovation process in agricultural holdings and the sector as a whole;
6. Formulation of recommendations to improve the application of CAP in the process of promoting innovation processes in agricultural holdings.

I believe that the scientific tasks are well formulated and enable the realization of the purpose of the dissertation research. In the present dissertation study, the thesis is defended that the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) creates conditions for promoting the innovation process in agricultural holdings.

Leading subtheses in the study are:

- The CAP sets a framework that determines the potential for innovation in farms and the sector as a whole;
- CAP influences the innovation process of agricultural holdings and their adaptability to market conditions.

I believe that the thesis and subtheses defined in this way correspond to the chosen topic and give the doctoral student a field of expression in the field of proving/rejecting scientific evidence regarding the course of certain socio-economic phenomena and processes.

I believe that the subject and the object of scientific research are correctly defined and provide a solid basis for an objective conclusion of the dissertation research.

The main methods that the PhD student used in his scientific research are widely popular and easy to interpret. This was clearly the main motive for their choice. In view of



the objective testing of the working hypotheses in the dissertation research, the doctoral student has chosen to apply the statistical methods - chi square analysis and regression analysis. These methods make it possible to accurately determine the direction and strength of influence of the factors creating the environment for the innovation process in Bulgarian agriculture.

#### **4. Transparency and presentation of the obtained results.**

The dissertation has a volume of 207 pages and is structured in the following sections - introduction, presentation in three chapters, conclusion, literature used and appendices. 207 literary sources were used in preparing the theoretical chapter of the dissertation.

In the dissertation, the information resulting from the research is presented using a total of 72 figures and 14 tables. I believe that the graphs, figures and tables presented in this way enable a good visualization of the obtained results.

#### **5. Discussion of results and used literature.**

I believe that the dissertation submitted for opinion is in a finished form and does not need to be further revised. The presented results correspond to the scientific tasks defined in advance already in the introduction of the dissertation. I consider these results to be original and are the result of the work of the doctoral student and his supervisor.

In the first chapter of the dissertation, the main opinions of the researchers in the field of innovations in the agricultural sector are discussed. The main theories, concepts and ideas in the innovation approach are analyzed, and through a critical analysis conclusions are formulated regarding the essence of the innovation process. At the end of the first chapter, the research methodology is presented and the survey instruments are defined. In my opinion, the research methodology is logically arranged and justified.

In the second chapter, the doctoral student analyzes the impact of CAP on the innovation process in agricultural holdings. The main factors that determine the development of the innovation process and the implementation of innovations in selected agricultural holdings have been investigated.

The doctoral student was able to correctly visualize and present the results of the conducted scientific research. Through numerous comparisons, collected surveys and conducted discussions, within the framework of focus groups, the doctoral student presents the conclusions of her analysis in a systematic manner. I consider the conclusions presented at the end of the second chapter to be well formulated and objectively reflect the essence of the researched problem.

In the third chapter of the dissertation, the main strengths/weaknesses as well as opportunities/threats for the development of innovations in farms are identified using the SWOT method. By testing the results obtained from the survey conducted by various stakeholders in the sector, the main needs of agricultural producers are identified in terms of increasing the intensity of their use of innovations. The strategic orientation of the innovation process is formulated and the main recommendations are given regarding CAP for achieving higher efficiency in financing and developing the innovation process in Bulgarian agriculture.

## **6. Contributions of the dissertation work.**

I believe that the dissertation work represents a complete and original scientific research, in which the following scientific contributions can be distinguished:

- The essence and role of innovations in the management of agricultural holdings are clarified;
- The essence of the CAP and its role in promoting innovation in agricultural holdings are clarified;
- A conceptual framework has been developed for evaluating the innovation process in agricultural holdings and for evaluating the impact of CAP on this process;
- The factors of the innovation process in the agricultural sector have been analyzed and evaluated;
- The impact of CAP on the innovation process in agricultural holdings and the sector as a whole has been analyzed and evaluated;
- Specific recommendations have been formulated to improve the application of CAP in the process of promoting innovation processes in agricultural holdings.

## **7. Critical notes and recommendations.**

The dissertation follows the classic structure of a dissertation study. I believe that, in this way, it fully expresses the analysis of the studied problem. I have no critical remarks on the design of the dissertation work, as well as recommendations, but I have the following question for the doctoral student:

- What are the main highlights in the new CAP regarding the development of the innovation process in European and in particular in Bulgarian agriculture?



## **8. Published articles and citations.**

On the subject of the dissertation, the doctoral student has published three independent articles, as follows:

1. Alieva, A. (2022). Influence of the CAP on innovation factors in agriculture. Journal of Bio-based Marketing, vol.1, 2022, 23 – 41
2. Alieva, A. (2022). Diagnosis of the innovation process in agricultural holdings in the Republic of Bulgaria. Journal of Bio-based Marketing, vol.2, 2022, 28 – 45
3. Aliyeva, A. (2022). Influence of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) on the development of agriculture in the Republic of Bulgaria. Trends in the development of the professional field "Administration and management" - a collection of round table reports. Publishing complex - UNSS, ISBN 978-619-232-600-5, str. 61 – 77.

I believe that these articles correspond to the topic of the dissertation work and are sufficient to cover the minimum scientometric requirements for acquiring the ONS "doctor" in professional direction 3.8. Economy.

## **CONCLUSION:**

Based on the submitted materials for review, I believe that the submitted dissertation meets the requirements of the RASRB and the Regulations of the Agrarian University for its application, which gives me reason to evaluate it POSITIVELY.

I take the liberty of proposing to the honorable Scientific Jury to also vote positively and award ATIDJE BAYRYAMOVA ALIEVA-VELI the educational and scientific degree "doctor" in the scientific specialty Organization and Production Management.

Date: 22/02/2023



REVIEWER:

Plovdiv

(Prof. Dr. Ivan Boevsky)