



**HIGH SCHOOL OF SECURITY AND ECONOMICS
PLOVDIV**

Statement

by Prof. Tomo Tsvetanov Borisov PhD,
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Field of higher education: 9. "Security and Defense", Professional field: 9.1. "National Security", on a dissertation developed by Lubomir Petrović, on "Modern system for combating drug production and trafficking" for the award of educational and scientific degree "Doctor", in the doctoral program "Security Strategies and Policies" in the field of higher education 9. Security and defense, professional field 9.1 National security, scientific supervisor Prof. Nikolay Stefanov Radulov.

SOFIA

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND EVALUATION OF ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE DISSERTATION:

The dissertation presented for defense is 224 pages long, including 48 tables. The bibliography includes 173 literature sources. The dissertation is structured in an introduction, three chapters, general conclusions, conclusion, bibliography and appendices. From the overall analysis of the dissertation it is evident that the adopted structure is logical and justified, and the scientific analysis is consistent.

In the introduction the doctoral student has clearly defined the topicality of the researched problem, the purpose, the tasks, the subject and the object of the research, as well as the working hypotheses. The study is dedicated to an important problem for science - the organization and management of the fight against drug production and trafficking.

The main subject of the doctoral dissertation is to understand the identity, features, structure and results of the functioning of a modern system for prevention of drug production and trafficking in the Republic of Northern Macedonia.

The study is based on the following thesis: "The modern system for combating the production and trafficking of narcotic drugs must necessarily comply with the general conditions under which the production, distribution and sale of narcotic substances takes place in view of socio-economic conditions, the legal system, as well as the technical and technological means used in the processes of production, transport, trade and use of drugs'. In order to achieve the set goal, the solution of **the following main research tasks:**

First, to identify the theoretical and practical aspects of combating drug production and trafficking.

Second, to find the topic that concerns the Republic of Northern Macedonia within the framework of the Balkan, European and international drug control system.

Thirdly, to indicate the current legal, social and professional status and practice for combating drug abuse in the Republic of Northern Macedonia.

Fourth, to note the weaknesses and difficulties, the malfunctioning and unproductiveness of the current system for the prevention of drug production and trafficking.

Fifth, to develop the modern system for prevention of drug production and trafficking in the Republic of Northern Macedonia, with its legal, social and expert-professional elements and dimensions.

The author has successfully coped with the research tasks formulated in this way.

The stated formulations of subject, goal and research thesis give me reason to conclude that the doctoral student has approached the research problem on a large scale.

The scientific courage to systematize and analyze such a major research problem must be highly appreciated. It should also be noted as a contribution, both the use and the appropriate combination of diverse and adequate research methods in the different parts of the dissertation.

The significance of the studied problems has not only theoretical but also practical dimensions. That is why the choice of the topic places the doctoral student among the researchers who have not focused on the development of already repeatedly studied topics in the field of drug production and trafficking.

The achievements in the dissertation work present the doctoral student as a motivated researcher, who approached the dissertation research precisely, after many years of preparation.

The broad general culture of the doctoral student, his practical knowledge and his active personal participation in the various fields of combating crime and terrorism in the Republic of Northern Macedonia, have enabled him to create a scientific product of depth and precision.

RELEVANCE OF THE TOPIC:

The relevance of the dissertation research flows from the changes in the geopolitical environment due to the growing asymmetric threats at the beginning of the 21st century.

One of the poorly studied aspects in this direction is the weaknesses and difficulties, the malfunction and unproductiveness of the current system for prevention of drug production and trafficking.

In this regard, the relevance of the problems studied by doctoral student Lubomir Petrovich are obvious.

From this point of view, the choice of topic for a dissertation research, in which the organization and management of the modern system for prevention of drug production and trafficking in the Republic of Northern Macedonia, with its legal, social and professional elements and dimensions is successful and of great practical importance.

The need for such a development is also imposed by the fact that the society and the citizens in the separate regions are still not sufficiently informed on these issues.

In order to prove the accepted hypotheses, an empirical study was conducted, which included a consultation with a wide range of experts, surveying employees working in the field of prevention of drug production and trafficking in the Republic of Northern Macedonia.

The results of the survey are summarized and analyzed correctly and conscientiously by the doctoral student.

In the conclusion of the dissertation the scientific contributions received by the author are correctly indicated.

The abstract is written in accordance with the requirements, corresponds to the dissertation and sufficiently reflects its content.

It is worth noting that the dissertation is characterized by consistency, analytical and logical presentation. It shows the high professional training of the dissertation, its precision and correctness.

ANALYSIS OF THE BIBLIOGRAPHY:

The list of used literature contains 173 literature sources and information from Internet sites.

The sources are modern and are generally a good basis for the development of a dissertation on such topics.

ANALYSIS OF THE AUTHOR'S PUBLICATIONS RELATED TO THE DISSERTATION:

The author's abstract contains 4 publications of the author.

I believe that these publications are in the required volume, and their analysis shows that they sufficiently reflect the research conducted and the results obtained.

CONCLUSION:

The doctoral dissertation presented for defense has the character of a completed scientific research. With it, the doctoral student convincingly demonstrates his / her qualities as a researcher, having solved a significant research task at a high scientific level.

The dissertation and scientific contributions are the personal work of the doctoral student, who shows the ability to thoroughly and independently

research an important problem, to systematize experience and to synthesize knowledge and sound conclusions.

Based on the overall analysis of the presented research, I positively evaluate the dissertation and believe that Lubomir Petrovic can be deservedly awarded the educational and scientific degree "DOCTOR" in higher education 9. Security and Defense, professional field 9.1. National Security.

Statement prepared by :

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(Prof. Tomo Borisov PhD)

30.08.2020

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