



# TRAKIA UNIVERSITY – STARA ZAGORA FACULTY OF ECONOMICS

## **OPINION**

From Prof. Dr. Nadka Stefanova Kostadinova, scientific specialty Economics and Management /agriculture, veterinary-medical activity, management accounting/, Department of Management at the Faculty of Economics of Trakia University - Stara Zagora.

The review was prepared on the basis of: Order No. 231/29.03.2024 of the Rector of the Academy of Economics "D. A. Tsenov" - Svishtov and the decision of the Scientific Jury, taken at the first meeting held on 04/11/2024.

Author of the dissertation: Elena Valerieva Valcheva, Department of "Commercial Business", CA "D. A. Tsenov", Svishtov for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the scientific specialty Economics and management /trade/, professional direction 3.8 Economics.

Dissertation topic: "STUDYING OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVING LOGISTICS TRANSPORT SERVICES IN TRADE"

#### I. General characteristics of the dissertation work

The subject of the scientific research is logistics transport services in trade.

Volume - the dissertation submitted for review has a total size of 216 standard pages and consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, a bibliography and appendices. The material is visualized by 38 pcs. figures and 14 pcs. tables.

The structure (title page, table of contents, introduction, presentation, conclusion and bibliography) and content of the dissertation are in accordance with the requirements of Art. 27, para. 2 of the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Used literature - the bibliographic list includes 105 literary information sources, of which 41 are English; 7 internet sites. 21 normative sources were also used. There are 8 appendices to the dissertation work.

#### II. Assessment of the form and content of the dissertation

Relevance of the research – The presented dissertation examines a current and commercially significant problem. Some of the more important arguments justifying the need to improve logistics transport services in this industry are the variety of trade opportunities, growing competition and the European Union's aspiration for a sustainable economy through the construction of a Trans-European transport network. The PhD student focuses on presenting theoretical aspects of logistics transport services and practical aspects for their improvement.

The object of research was correctly selected - the Bulgarian enterprises carrying out commercial activity using transport services.

The subject of the scientific research is logistics transport services in trade.

The research thesis is a logical consequence of the topic of the dissertation - the application of a suitable system of indicators, integrated into a model for analyzing and evaluating logistics transport services, determines the decisions of Bulgarian enterprises to improve the management of a supply chain in trade.

The purpose and tasks of the dissertation work are precisely and clearly formulated, adequate to the object of research, tracking and analyzing the possibilities for improving logistics transport services in trade.

The research methodology used, covering various methods and approaches, is suitable for the purpose and tasks of the research and has been applied correctly.

I believe that the restrictive conditions of the research are correctly set in the dissertation work, namely that the dissertation work mainly examines freight transport and the majority of respondents in the survey are in the territory of Veliko Tarnovo region.

The exposition of the dissertation work is presented in three chapters, with a good balance being achieved in terms of their volumes and also of their individual paragraphs. A classic approach of structuring a dissertation with distinguishable and logically linked theoretical, methodological-analytical and project parts is adopted, which in their totality represent a self-completed study.

Each chapter of the dissertation ends with adequately summarized conclusions.

In the conclusion of the dissertation, the doctoral student presents generalized theoretical propositions, results achieved during the research, formulates main conclusions that prove the thesis of the dissertation.

I believe that the dissertation work is an original and in-depth scientific study, a personal work of the author. The doctoral student complied with the rules of scientific ethics by correctly citing the used literary sources. The calculation procedures and the statistical processing of the empirical data were performed correctly. The dissertation work is very well illustrated and illustrated.

The abstract is presented in a form that meets the requirements, reflecting in a volume of 47 pages the content of the dissertation and the main scientific and applied results achieved.

The contribution report correctly reflects the results achieved by the author, which I fully accept.

The dissertation submitted to me for review proves that the doctoral student has acquired in-depth theoretical knowledge of the studied issue and has the ability to conduct independent scientific research.

The doctoral student has published 3 independent publications on the subject of her dissertation, one of which is in the proceedings of an International Scientific Conference.

### III. Questions, recommendations and notes

I have no questions for the doctoral student:

I recommend the doctoral student in her future scientific activity to publish her research in specialized, refereed and indexed scientific journals.

#### IV. Conclusion

The dissertation work of PhD student Elena Valerieva Valcheva on the topic: "RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVING LOGISTICS TRANSPORT SERVICES IN TRADE" is a completed independent scientific study dedicated to a current economic problem. The set goals and tasks of the research have been successfully fulfilled.

I believe that the dissertation meets the requirements of the RSARB and the Regulations for its application. With conviction, I will vote for awarding an educational and scientific "Doctor" to Elena Valerieva Valcheva in the scientific specialty "Economics and Management" /trade/.

10.05.2024

city of Stara Zagora

Prepared the opinion:

/Prof. Dr. N. Kostadinova/