

REVIEW

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Momchil Mavrov

associate professor in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional direction 3.6 Law, Administrative law and administrative procedure at Medical University - Plovdiv

for a dissertation thesis for award of the educational and scientific degree
"doctor"

Field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, Professional direction: 3.6. Right

Doctoral program: "Administrative law and administrative process"

Author: VASIL MLADENOV PETROV, full-time doctoral student at Paisii Hilendarski Polytechnic

Dissertation topic: "CONSTITUTION, INTERNAL ORGANIZATION AND COMPETENCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL"

Research supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bogdan Yordanov

Dear members of the scientific jury,

1. General notes

Pursuant to Order No. RD-21-1717 of 05.10.2023 of the Rector of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury for the defense of the scientific and educational degree "doctor" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences ; professional direction: 3.6. Law, Doctoral program: "Administrative law and administrative process".

Vasil Mladenov Petrov was enrolled as a regular doctoral student in the doctoral program "Administrative law and administrative procedure" at the department of "Public Law Sciences" of the Faculty of Law of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" in 2020. He was awarded with the right to defend in 2023. The doctoral student submits all the necessary documents related to the dissertation defense procedure.

2. Analysis and evaluation of the dissertation work

The presented dissertation has a volume of 195 pages and includes an introduction, four chapters, a conclusion and a bibliography. The applicant has three publications on the topic of the dissertation in authoritative legal journals. The abstract reflects the main scientific and applied scientific contributions of the dissertation.

In the general description of the work, the doctoral student has successfully argued the relevance and importance of the topic, the subject, tasks and methodology, the structure of the work are outlined.

In **Chapter One** of the dissertation, entitled "Concept of local self-government. Development of local self-government in Bulgaria", the doctoral candidate skillfully and in detail clarifies the key concept of "self-government" and differentiates it from similar concepts, which represents a correct approach for the subsequent analysis of the topic. The presented extensive review of the main theories of the nature of local self-government and of the three systems of local self-government, including the European Charter of Local Self-Government, I consider as a significant contribution. The comprehensive historical review of the development of the legal framework of local self-government in Bulgaria provides an opportunity for a thorough study of the main issues on the subject and successful implementation of the tasks set.

In Chapter Two, the doctoral student presents a systematic and comprehensive review of the place of the municipal council in the current legal framework of local self-government in the Republic of Bulgaria. A contributing point is the analysis of the municipality as a legal entity and its characteristic features, as well as relations between the municipal council and the mayor of the municipality.

Chapter Three is devoted to the questions of the constitution of the municipal council and its internal organization. The author logically and consistently analyzes the legal status of the chair of the municipal council, the municipal councilors, their powers, competence, rights and obligations. I accept as a contributing point the presented analysis of the control over the acts of the municipal council and the recommendations made for improving the legislation in this direction.

As a significant contributing point, I'd point out the author's proposal de lege ferenda for the public mediator under Art. 21a of the Local Self-Governance and Local Administration Act to create the possibility to challenge the by-laws of the municipal council, which violate the rights and freedoms of citizens .

In Chapter Four of the dissertation, the good exposition of subject classifications on the powers of the municipal council makes an impression. A contributing point

of the work is the delimitation of the powers of the municipal council in exercising the functions of local self-government, its planning and other powers, as well as the proposals made in connection with the constitution of the municipal council and the swearing in of the municipal councilors in order to achieve greater clarity of the regulation and guarantee of legal certainty. The doctoral student's opinion is well-argued that a deadline should be set for the elected municipal councilors to take an oath. It is impressive that the doctoral student shows very good knowledge of the scientific apparatus, has used numerous literary sources, as well as the practice of the Constitutional Court, administrative courts and the Supreme Administrative Court.

3. Notes and Recommendations:

I have no specific notes regarding the scientific activity of the doctoral student and the presented dissertation work. I'd recommend that the author should continue his research in the field and make his work available to the scientific community by publishing it as a monograph.

I have not found any data on plagiarism and using other people's scientific contributions in an illegal way.

4. Conclusion:

Having familiarized myself with the materials presented in the procedure and based on the analysis of their significance and the scientific contributions contained in them, I have reason to assume that the dissertation contains scientific and applied results that represent an original contribution to science and meet the requirements of the Promotion of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations on its implementation and the relevant Regulations of the Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski". Accordingly, I confidently **give my positive assessment on the dissertation work of Vasil Mladenov Petrov and propose to the scientific jury to award him the educational and scientific degree "doctor" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional direction 3.6 Law, doctoral program "Administrative Law and Administrative Procedure"**.

November 11, 2023.

Prepared the opinion:
/Assoc. Prof. Dr. Momchil Mavrov/