

**ANNOTATIONS OF THE PRESENTED MATERIALS INCLUDING SELF-
ASSESSMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF CHIEF ASSIST. PROF.
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MONOGRAPHS

I. MONOGRAPHS:

1. **Stoyanova, D., Macroeconomics and the Labor Market in the Conditions of a Currency Board.** Paisii Hilendarski University Publishing House, Plovdiv, 2021, pages 130, ISBN 978-619-202-674-5

Abstract: The current processes and phenomena arising from the effects of the coronavirus pandemic render significant importance and relevance to the topic addressing the effects of the external shocks on the economy. The aforesaid sets the issue of the degree of vulnerability of the Bulgarian economy in the case of external shocks and whether the economic policy in a country with a currency board, such as Bulgaria, creates the necessary conditions for maintaining a sturdy macro-framework and a stable labor market. On the one hand, the macroeconomic stability, characterized by maintaining certain levels of key macroeconomic indicators, is of particular importance for achieving economic growth. On the other hand, the development of the macro-framework in Bulgaria determines the achieved level of economic cohesion with the European community on the country's path to joining the Euro zone.

The macroeconomic stability has been one of the fundamental goals of Bulgaria's economic policy, especially after the country became a member of the EU, as stability is a key priority of the European economic policy, too, and of the functioning of the common market. This is because the macroeconomic stability is connected with the maintenance of stable levels of key macroeconomic indicators, which is a prerequisite for achieving economic growth. This requires special caution in identifying any potential macroeconomic risks. In this regard, a monitoring mechanism has been set up within the EU to identify, prevent and correct macroeconomic imbalances or the so-called Macroeconomic Imbalance Procedure (MIP). The significance of this monitoring is due to the fact

that any possible obstacles to the normal functioning of the economies of the Euro area and EU member states can be revealed at an early stage.

Macroeconomic imbalances are also observed in the Bulgarian economy, especially in periods of a growing economy. Therefore, our aim should be to apply a successful model for managing imbalances by applying the appropriate tools, and not eliminating them. The opportunities for this are sought in the stabilization function of the labor market and its flexibility in the conditions of a currency board in our country. Along with all this, the macroeconomic stability in Bulgaria is facing serious challenges, especially when the Bulgarian economy is highly open and is part of the global processes and markets. Thus, the impulses from the development of the world economy are transmitted to a greater extent, which affects the cyclical nature of the economy. Despite the global crises, the macro-framework in the country has managed to remain relatively stable in a currency board environment and at limited fiscal policy. The above largely confirms the stability of the currency board.

However, a fixed exchange rate under a currency board arrangement implies a lack of flexibility of the monetary policy via which external shocks through the exchange rate are absorbed. In this situation, the labor market plays a special role, which is one of the most effective tools for restoring the economic balance in the country under a currency board arrangement. Therefore, the successful implementation of the currency board largely depends on the existence of a flexible labor market, which allows the economy to adapt quickly to shocks. All this requires a better understanding of the currency board, the macro-framework and macroeconomic imbalances, which is why it is necessary to clarify the essence of the concepts. The study of the currency board concepts and the macroeconomic imbalance assessment tools is the basis for selecting the most appropriate definition of the concepts for the purposes of the current research.

Self-assessment: The present study provides an opportunity to trace connections and draw conclusions which are still a challenge for the scientific and professional circles. This becomes possible thanks to the comprehensive consideration of the theoretical concepts of the currency board and the analysis of the empirical results for the Bulgarian economy. The basic contribution of the research paper is that specific manifestations of the currency board which have not been sufficiently studied so far are highlighted, such as its impact on the macroeconomic development of Bulgaria and the ability of the labor market to absorb external shocks and to function in extreme economic conditions related to the post-crisis Bulgarian economy.

Although the conventional theory defines the currency board as insufficiently flexible in terms of external shocks, the present study proves the opposite for the Bulgarian economy, which is one of the essential contributions of the development. The empirical economic analysis of the macro-framework of Bulgaria in terms of a currency board, as well as the comparative characteristics with the macro-framework of the EU member states, reveal that the Bulgarian economy is not among the most affected by the crisis. This underscores the advantages of the currency board, especially in times of crisis. Bulgaria's experience shows that the operation of the currency board in the country contributes to maintaining financial stability and to achieving economic convergence in key macroeconomic indicators.

The role of the labor market in the economic recovery is particularly essential under currency board conditions, as the restrictions imposed on the monetary and fiscal policy restrict the use of the tools of these policies. The labor market is the main instrument that bears the burden of shocks on the economy and this affects the basic indicators - unemployment rate and employment rate.

The present study addresses another important issue, and namely, the assessment of the relationship between the macroeconomic imbalances and the economic growth in Bulgaria, which, being an open economy, is strongly influenced by the external economic and political changes in the globalized economic relations. The results obtained from the study of the macroeconomic imbalances have served to confirm the thesis that the growth of the Bulgarian economy, as a small and highly open one, is accompanied by large macroeconomic imbalances.

II. MONOGRAPHS:

1. Stoyanova, D., Raychev, S., Madzhurova, B. **Social cohesion (National, regional and structural dimensions in the context of Bulgaria-EU-Western Balkans**, University Publishing House "Paisii Hilendarski", Plovdiv, 2019, p. 385 ISBN 978-619-202-442-0

Abstract: The concept of social cohesion is becoming increasingly relevant due to new processes and phenomena in the modern world such as emerging threats to values and norms in societies caused by the impact of globalization and accelerated economic, political and demographic changes, growing polarization between people, countries and regions. All this

requires a rethinking of current practices and a shift to more socially oriented policies in line with the requirements of modern times.

The last few decades in Europe have seen some of the most comprehensive integration processes, not only economically and politically, but also socially. The removal of borders between EU member states and the globalization of the economy have undoubtedly left their mark on European social policy. These processes are accompanied by significant difficulties in maintaining well-being due to increased social vulnerability.

The countries subject to the policy of enlargement of the European Union are experiencing the effects of European integration in various aspects - economic, social, political. In addition, they face a number of challenges posed by internal (aging, cultural differences, income differences, structural changes, etc.) and external impacts (globalization, emigration pressure, etc.). Opportunities for enlargement are linked to greater prosperity in the newly acceded and acceding countries. The EU's goal is to create a united Europe in which the interconnectedness of the countries in the region is stronger. Social, economic and territorial cohesion largely determine the development of the process of interconnection between the countries.

In order to better understand social cohesion, an attempt has been made to clarify the essence of the concept itself. With this in mind, a review of the literature on social cohesion has been made. This makes it possible to outline the theoretical framework, as well as the main dependencies and assumptions that serve as a basis for forming the thesis of this study, as well as for building an approach to analysis and evaluation of social cohesion in national, regional and structural dimensions of Bulgaria - EU - Western Balkans. During the implementation of the methodological framework of the study, the achieved level of social cohesion in terms of the labor market, education and social conditions in the countries of the Western Balkans and the EU was assessed. The results of cohesion policies are also analyzed.

Based on the purpose of the development, namely to assess the achieved level of inclusion of Bulgaria, the countries of the Western Balkans and the EU, in the first place there is a need to clarify the meaning of the concept of social cohesion. Based on this, a review of the better known understandings of social cohesion, which are related to: the reasons for the emergence of social cohesion; factors influencing social cohesion; opportunities for the development of social cohesion; the tools for measuring social cohesion, as well as cohesion policies. The review of the concepts

of social cohesion is the basis for choosing the most appropriate definition of the concept for the purposes of this study.

Self-assessment: The contribution of the actual monograph lies in its systematic and detailed research on the concepts of social cohesion and the toolkit for its study. Causal analysis is used, allowing for an in-depth assessment of the social cohesion along with a study of the bipolar function of the social cohesion - as an independent and result variable. As a basis for understanding the state of social cohesion, the factors for its emergence, as well as its consequences, serve the basic theoretical concepts regarding social cohesion as a function of social inclusion; social cohesion as a function of social capital; and social cohesion as a function of institutions (policies pursued). The special contribution is found in the fact that it brings out the importance of conducting an effective social policy for achieving greater social cohesion. Although the social cohesion is a function of the social inclusion and the social capital, effective institutional interventions are needed to make them possible. On the one hand, the social inclusion is a result of the adequate policy, including the protection of social rights, the promotion of quality education and hence – the active inclusion in the labor market, which is an opportunity for access to certain financial resources. On the other hand, the social capital is a consequence of the social interaction of the individuals, but in order to be qualitative, it is carried out in accordance with certain institutional norms and rules promoting the formation of a socially cohesive society. Along with the above, this paper evaluates the level of integration of the EU countries, Bulgaria and the Western Balkans, and in particular the connectivity they have achieved in terms of the labor market, education and social conditions.

2. Raychev, S., Madzhurova, B., Stoyanova, D., **Impact of globalization on the nature of jobs and employment**, University Publishing House “Paisii Hilendarski”, Plovdiv, 2020, 328 p., ISBN 978-619-202-563-2

Abstract: The concept of the changing nature of jobs is becoming increasingly relevant due to new processes in the modern world caused by globalization and its associated consequences such as technological change and liberalization of markets, which, on the other hand, are a source of new opportunities and challenges for the development of economic, demographic and political life. Different aspects of globalization have different effects, which are unevenly distributed among different regions, markets and citizens and which lead to polarization between them. For example,

the labor market and the nature of jobs are also affected by globalization and the resulting factors that come together and make their impact even more significant.

All this requires a rethinking of current practices and the need to implement programs and measures in line with the requirements of modern times, aimed at achieving growing, sustainable and inclusive economies. The driving force for achieving long-term economic growth is the effective integration of the factors of production, labor and capital, which is made possible using technology. Innovation is a key element of technological progress worldwide, which is why it is necessary to monitor the possibilities for their expansion.

Technological progress and innovation remain an indisputable imprint on the work process, organizational forms and job structure. The professional structure changes as professions related to the industry die out and new professions appear, the profile of which includes key qualifications in the field of information technologies; linguistic; communication skills, etc. These new challenges for the design of professions require greater flexibility and adaptability.

The significant change in the structure of jobs redirects labor to development activities. This also leads to a change in the educational process. It does not end with obtaining an educational degree, but on the contrary - begins with starting work, precisely because of the dynamics of jobs. For this reason, the role of lifelong learning policies, which make it possible to adapt the workforce to changes in the labor market and to the needs of the economy, is growing.

All this requires a better understanding of technology and innovation, which is why it is necessary to clarify the essence of the concepts themselves. Based on this, a review of the literature on technological progress and innovation was made. This makes it possible to outline the theoretical framework and the main dependencies and assumptions that are fundamental for the formation of the thesis of this study, as well as to build an approach to analyse and assess the impact of technological progress / innovation on the nature of jobs. During the implementation of the methodological framework of the study, an assessment of the effects of technological progress / innovation on the labor market and in particular on the nature / structure of jobs was made. Emphasis is also placed on policies that stimulate the spread of innovation, as well as on the results of their action.

Self-assessment: The special contribution of the present study on the impact of globalization on the labor market lies in the presentation and interpretation of the different aspects and mechanisms of the studied relationship - globalization/ innovation - employment, as well as in the

detailed analysis of the toolkit for evaluation of the innovations. We have offered various answers provided by the economic schools concerning the effects of innovation on employment. On the one hand, innovation is a factor for the increase of unemployment due to the automation of the work process and the replacement of the workforce with machines. On the other hand, innovation is a factor for the rise of productivity, for economic growth, and hence – for employment. This monograph has undoubtedly contributed to a deeper understanding of the link between globalization and the work availability.

In recent years, globalization has changed dramatically in some sectors, in others less the preferences of individuals for the realization of their workforce, the demand of employers for quality and quantity of labor force in relation to the possession of knowledge and skills related to new economic realities, technology, automation and robotics. Globalization has had the strongest impact on the labor market through the direct impact of technology, changing the very understanding of even the workplace and employment, in this sense this has been reflected in the flexibility of employment and distance in the workplace; new management methods, such as changes in the human resources management system, etc. Last but not least, globalization has an impact on the labor market through changes in economic relations, liberalization and internationalization of commodity, capital and labor flows under the influence of new technologies, transport, supranational organizations and many agreements on the free movement of factors of production and final goods and services.

Globalization brings the new economic paradigms, the knowledge economy, the green economy, sustainable development and growth, the circular economy, and so on which model the structure of employment and the nature of jobs.

III. CHAPTER OF A MONOGRAPH

1. Stoyanova, D., Madzhurova, B., Raychev, S. **Cohesion in the field of education - level reached in Bulgaria, the EU and the Western Balkans. European integration today - some problems and opportunities**, University Publishing House “Paisii Hilendarski”, Plovdiv, 2019, p. 99-138, ISBN 978-619-202-418-5

Abstract: The European Union follows the idea of maintaining peace, democracy, stability and prosperity in Europe. Commitment to the implementation of this idea is also one of the conditions for the accession of the new member states. The EU's goal is to achieve a united Europe, and to this end it is necessary to improve the connectivity between the individual countries in the region. The process of interconnection between the countries is largely subject to economic, social and territorial cohesion. Opportunities for EU enlargement are revealed by the European perspective for the accession of the Western Balkans to the EU, as a key role in making this issue a priority has our country during the Bulgarian presidency of the Council of the European Union. Part of the EU's enlargement policy is to achieve social cohesion between the EU and the countries of the Western Balkans. For the purposes of the present study, social cohesion is considered in the context of the achieved level of educational cohesion. Based on an analytical review of the main theoretical models and concepts related to the understanding of social cohesion, and the tools for measuring social cohesion, the methodological framework of the study is built, in the implementation of which the achieved level of social cohesion of education in the Western Balkans is assessed compared to the EU.

Self-assessment: The offered study highlights the analysis of the development of the main indicators which measure the educational cohesion in the EU countries and the Western Balkans. Its special contribution lies in bringing out the role of education as a factor in achieving cohesion and reducing imbalances between the EU countries and the Western Balkans.

The cohesion policy in the field of education invests in the skills and competences of the people, which are crucial to ensuring Europe's long-term competitiveness. Education, which increases human capital and provides better opportunities for realization on the labor market, is of key importance for the promotion of social cohesion. Important conclusions are drawn regarding the education policies in Bulgaria. The analysis reveals that funds planned by the ESF and the Cohesion Funds are used and spent with a significant lag. This leads to a slowdown in education reforms, and hence to de-cohesion with the rest of the EU Member States.

SCIENTIFIC ARTICLES AND REPORTS

1. Raychev, R., Stoyanova, D, Madzhurova, B. **Macroeconomic measures on the phenomenon of working poverty. Cause-effect analysis.** Innovativity in Modeling and Analytics Journal of Research vol. 2, 2017, pp.49-67 iMAJOR, ISSN 2534-9619

Abstract: This paper explores the macroeconomic reveals of the phenomenon of working poor, observed in Europe in post-communist countries. They are a serious economic and social problem that is related to the inefficient use of resources in the national economy and the inability of a significant proportion of the working poor to actively participate in consumption and thus to contribute to economic growth. In addition, this phenomenon is also a cause of depopulation of whole areas.

Self-assessment. The special contribution of the present study is that this study focuses on research and analysis of the results and links between working poor and key macroeconomic indicators or basic indicators related to the economic and social policy pursued as part of the overall macroeconomic policy.

The analysis of "working poor" aims to better understand the causes and consequences of the appearance of this particular group on the labor market.

The importance of exploring the "working poor" is also expressed by the need to assess the opportunities of the policies pursued in the labor market and to formulate proposals for additional policies to reduce the "working poor", as well as the implementation of more effective policies in the field.

The Factor Analysis of the "working poor" can lead to a number of prerequisites contributing to the appearance of this group, but particular emphasis is placed on *economic growth; minimum wage education level of the employed; the size of the household; the type of working hours and the labor contract, and the low labor intensity.*

The solution to the problem of "working poor" can not be found easily because the labor market is analyzed on its own and unemployment and employment are inextricably linked to the social system, macroeconomic policy and education.

"Working poor", on the one hand, are also the cause and consequence of economic growth. The results of the study show that the problem for working poor is not only the low minimum wage,

but also the overall low total income distributed among household members. Poverty among workers is due to many factors - low wages; insufficient hours; low income; size and type of household; lack of labor qualification and low educational level; low labor intensity, etc. All these factors must be taken into account when implementing social policy.

2. Yulia V. Dzhabarova, Blaga P. Madzhurova, Stefan A. Raichev, Dobrinka I. Stoyanova, **Dimensions of young adult policies impact on a comparative principle at an european level**, *Economy & Business*, ISSN 1314-7242, Volume 12, 2018

Abstract: This paper discusses some priority Life Long Learning (LLL) policies at European level. The aim is to provide a basis thorough analysis and assessment of the effectiveness of these policies and how they support the transition of young people from education to employment and their common well-being. The conclusion in our study identifies the positive and negative effects in certain European countries and highlights the critical points for further research. The aim of the study is to identify best practices through an analysis of lifelong learning policies.

Self-assessment: The special contribution of the present study is that qualitative analysis of the interviews with young adults and experts provides an opportunity to evaluate and compare key outcomes and conclusions about the potential of lifelong learning policies from the perspective of young adults and experts. Based on the information gathered in the nine national reports, the different perceptions of the social expectations underpinning policies and initiatives have been identified, thus measuring the possibilities for individuals to create subjective significance.

Based on the requirements of the study, three perspectives - life course research (LCR), cultural political economy (CPE) and governance (GOV) - with conclusions can be identified: The LCR highlights how problems in one dimension of life put pressure on the behavior of people in other dimensions of life. Moreover, this strand of research also asks how the experiences of young adults match with the views of experts. The question is not only if they do but also why and how.

Then, the CPE scrutinizes how policies are selected among many alternatives, and sometimes, how target groups are constructed in accordance with that selection. So, vulnerable young adults are expected to respond to social norms that have been established by somebody else. This is really a complex semiotic process whereby policy-makers define routes, professionals develop their expertise, and institutions constitute daily routines. By realizing how complex the process is,

anybody who is interested in lifelong learning will also find the clues to understand many problems that inevitably emerge. The GOV argues that social interaction shapes the coordination between public departments and others stakeholders. The outcome is an array of combinations between hierarchical and network governance.

Since lifelong learning policies operate in the interfaces of education, labor market and social policies, it is obvious that their governance should not be overlooked.

The main conclusion that follows from the analysis is that most of the young people involved in the interviews of this study believe that lifelong learning policies ultimately help them.

The conclusion drawn from interviews with experts shows that lifelong learning policies have great potential, but at the same time they call for reflection, further debates and political debates.

3. Stoyanova, D., Raychev, S., Madzhurova, B., **Fiscal consolidation of the new member states of the EU**, Management and Education T. 15 (1) 2019 pp. 111-115, 2019 ISSN 13126121

Abstract: The global economic and financial crisis of 2008 has shown the need for a deeper study of the effectiveness of fiscal policy and its impact on economic growth across the different phases of the economic cycle within the EU Member States. There is a discussion on this issue because of the different views of existing economic theories about the role of the state in the economy. This requires an in-depth analysis of public revenues and expenditures and their impact on GDP. The need to increase government spending in the new EU member states has put the issue of fiscal consolidation back to the forefront. The effect of macroeconomic processes on changes in public spending also impacts on a longer process as well as on long-term economic growth. The need to cut costs or raise taxes put the new member states in front of serious trials due to fiscal consolidation.

Self-assessment: The main contribution of the present study is that it contributes to the understanding of fiscal consolidation and its economic dimensions and social cost. This issue corresponds with special relevance and practical significance to the new EU member states on the way of their adaptation to the new economic realities. Theoretical review and empirical analysis in the context of the newly acceded economies show more fully the vulnerability and

inefficiency of the adopted economic ideologies and the fragile balance of state intervention and the free market.

It is reported that Bulgaria mainly relies on indirect taxes in the revenue part of the budget. Therefore, with this structure, budget revenues are highly dependent on the effects of the economic cycle, which in the presence of fixed or difficult to change government expenditures may hinder the achievement of budgetary targets. The rules may require fiscal consolidation, which is seen as a pro-cyclical measure, but they do not provide an answer to fiscal policy in years of economic boom, when fiscal indicators are below the limits. The fiscal consolidation measures applied must be balanced and consistent. Important factors that have a decisive influence on the results of fiscal consolidation, the volume of accumulated government debt, as well as the level of economic development and ways to attract financial resources to finance the general government deficit.

4. Raychev, St., Stoyanova, D., Madzhurova, Bl. **LLL policies as an opportunity to promote growth and social inclusion.** Jubilee International Scientific Conference “ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL [DIS] INTEGRATION”, University Publishing House “Paisii Hilendarski”, Plovdiv, 2020, pp. 620-628, ISBN 978-619-202-565-6

Abstract: This article discusses lifelong learning policies and their impact on young people. Policies effectiveness is investigated through quality research. On the one hand, young people’s perceptions of the social expectations they have in relation to the initiatives under consideration are analyzed. On the other hand, policies are analyzed by summarizing the results of interviews with experts from employment and education policy. Proposals for lifelong learning change and improvement are identified with the aim of achieving greater economic growth and more sustainable social inclusion for young people.

Self-assessment: The present study contributes to the understanding that the LLL policies should focus in particular on enhancing the suitability of young people for the needs of the labor market to the qualities and skills of the manufacturing process from an economic point of view. This in turn will lead to increasing employability of young adults and transition into employment and supporting low qualified people, facing risks of unemployment or preventing future unemployment. On the basis of the results of the research on concrete steps should be taken to integration

into primary labor market positions or reintegration into the education and training systems; acquisition of some generic work experience; provision of practical knowledge and skills; facilitating the official recognition of informally acquired professional skills; acquiring new skills and knowledge especially practical competencies; enhancing competencies of young adults in order to increase their competitiveness, develop and upgrade their career or everyday management skills as well as their learning and studying capabilities. All the workers because of the changing reality at the labor market have to be lifelong learners. If the LLL policies are not adapted to the economic reality it is a risk to appear anxiety in the labor market which includes a rising unemployment and because of it a fiscal pressure on the state budgets. The activation of young people by increasing their employability by reducing the possibility of their marginalization leads not only to economic growth due to the increase in quality and quantity of the labor factor through the labor force but also to the overall economic and social development. Lifelong learning, state policies and the efforts of actors towards them today are without an alternative and indispensable condition for improving the welfare of the society.

5. Madzhurova, B., Raychev, S., Stoyanova, D., **Social Entrepreneurship in Bulgaria as part of the integration processes - problems and prospects for development.** Jubilee International Scientific Conference “ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL [DIS] INTEGRATION”, University Publishing House “Paisii Hilendarski”, Plovdiv, 2020, pp. 222-237, ISBN 978-619-202-565-6

Abstract: Social entrepreneurship is an essential element of the social economy. Undoubtedly, social enterprises have become more and more important in recent years for the development of the economy, and in particular the labor market in Bulgaria. Their role in stimulating the economy and the opportunity to provide equal access to the labor market and improving the integration of disadvantaged people necessitates a more in-depth analysis. This report presents the problems and prospects for the development of social entrepreneurship in Bulgaria as well as the economic and social effects they generate.

Self-assessment: The special contribution lies in the fact that it emphasizes the importance of the social entrepreneurship in Bulgaria and the role of the social entrepreneur for achieving a higher degree of integration. With regards to the presumption that the development of the social system

creates an opportunity to shape and differentiate public entities to intervene where not only the market but also the state fails to cope with the social evils and the severe results of unbalanced economic development, emphasis is placed on the role of the social entrepreneur and social entrepreneurship, which in general appear as the engine of the social economy. The necessity to implement social entrepreneurship arises precisely from the contribution it has to mediation, on the one hand, between policies and programs aimed at removing barriers to the application of civil, economic, social and political rights, and on the other hand, to the representatives of vulnerable social groups. The social support for the people from vulnerable groups is a necessary condition for their activation and for encouraging their potential contribution to society. The importance of the social inclusion of disadvantaged groups is underlined by the fact that it provides equal opportunities for fuller participation in the economic, political, social and cultural life of the society.

Social entrepreneurship in Bulgaria faces several difficulties related to the provision of financial resources; hiring employees; the development of entrepreneurial skills; providing an institutional and legal basis and greater transparency in the work of the institutions, etc.

One of the most important factors for the successful development of social entrepreneurship is the role of the social manager. First, this is not a profession like all the others, which is characterized by certain standard job descriptions. The profession of social manager is a vocation for which flexible approaches must be applied according to the situation and the specific group to which it is directed. A successful social manager must have the appropriate personal, managerial and social skills, as well as the necessary education, to be able to apply them in his work with representatives of vulnerable social groups.

6. Stoyanova, D, Madzhurova, B. Raychev, St. **Cross-case analysis of local / regional networks in LLL policy-making across Europe**. Annual scientific conference on: Interests, Values, Legitimacy: International, European and National Dimensions. UNWE, Sofia 2020, pp. 94 - 105, ISBN 978-619-232-331-8

Abstract: This paper discusses some cross-case analysis of regional/local networks in LLL policy-making based on the case study reports from the participant countries, a cross-case analysis is conducted in order to identify patterns of policy-making networks involved in shaping,

formulating, and implementing LLL policies for young adults as well as best practices of integrating LLL policies in economy, labour, education and individual life courses. Furthermore, the cross-case analysis is aimed at describing the ways in which the different policy-making networks embody different kinds of mechanisms/assumptions about the needs and the activation paths of recipients. The aim of the study is to identify best practices across the countries in Europe.

Self-assessment: The present study contributes to the understanding of cross-case analysis of regional/local networks in LLL policy-making, based on the case study reports from the participant countries, is conducted in order to identify patterns of policy-making networks involved in shaping, formulating, and implementing LLL policies for young adults as well as best practices of integrating LLL policies in economy, labour, education and individual life courses. Furthermore, the cross-case analysis is aimed at describing the ways in which the different policymaking networks embody different kinds of mechanisms/assumptions about the needs and the activation paths of recipients. It is important to mention that the Life Long Learning (LLL) policies across Europe have been repeatedly described as highly fragmented and often conflicting in their objectives in relation to their target groups and means of implementation. They might produce unintended effects when they are not well suited to the highly diverse target groups, although aiming to improve economic growth and social inclusion for young adults. In particular, firstly, regarding measures aimed at young adults a lack of coordinated policy-making can be observed; secondly, regarding the high fragmentation of LLL policies different effects in different contexts can be observed, raising the question these policies are adequately fitted to their targeted groups.

7. Raychev, S. Stoyanova, D., Madzhurova B., **The impact of innovation and technological progress on the labour market**, Journal of Statistics, Issue 2/2020, Ed. National Statistical Institute, C, 2020, ISSN 2367-5489

Abstract: The article provides an in-depth empirical analysis of the effects of innovation and technological progress on the labor market. The changing nature of work and the structure of jobs as a result of the spread of innovation are studied. The role of innovation management institutions is also considered. Emphasis is placed on protecting jobs by increasing investment in human capital, implementing lifelong learning policies and strengthening social protection.

Self-assessment: A significant contribution of the present study is that it provides an opportunity to understand the impact of innovation and technological progress on the labor market and economic growth. The effect of improving innovation is linked to: supporting the workforce by improving the quality of jobs; the increase of employers' profits as a result of increased productivity; as well as improving the effectiveness of society as a whole by achieving sustainable growth.

Using digital technologies, entrepreneurs create global platforms different from the traditional production processes dominated by input-output systems. In the EU and Bulgaria, labor is being transferred from primary and secondary (type) to tertiary based on the link between scientific and technological progress. Such a reality leads to the need to rethink public policies in the field of education, social and fiscal systems of the country. If aspirations are linked to opportunities, then the conditions for inclusive, sustainable economic growth are met. But in the presence of inequalities in opportunities or a mismatch between available jobs and skills, frustration can lead to migration or fragmentation of society.

8. Stoyanova, D., Madjurova, B. , Raichev, S.; **Social Cohesion (Bulgaria – EU – Western Balkans)**., Economic Studies, Volume 28, Issue 3, 2019, pp 96-124, ISSN: 0205-3292

Abstract: The current study examines the social cohesion between the Western Balkans, Bulgaria and the EU within the context of the labor market. It represents an overview of the more well-known theoretical concepts, relevant to the understanding of the social cohesion, as well as of the tools for its measuring. The achieved level of convergence between the surveyed countries is evaluated, based on the analysis of the indicators related to the labor market dynamics. The main EU strategies and policies are presented for promoting the accession of the Western Balkan countries on the way to their future membership. Critical points are identified for the necessity of key reforms in national policies to strengthen the social cohesion in the labor market context as an important link in the social cohesion policy chain.

Self-assessment: An important contribution to the present study is because it gives meaning to the social cohesion of Bulgaria, the EU and the Western Balkans in the context of the labor market. In this sense, the process of convergence and reduction of the imbalance between Bulgaria, the Western Balkans and the EU is considered in relation to the labor market.

The results obtained show that the inequality in market incomes for the working-age population remains high, and this is a factor which has a strong impact on the lack of progress in the convergence of the Western Balkan countries and the EU.

Poverty, high unemployment, the shadow economy, low wages, corruption, abuse of office, emigration of skilled workers, discrimination against minorities and brain drain are issues that affect all the countries of the Western Balkans. We can also add the low level of digital skills, with especially pronounced regional disparities, as well as a huge share of NEET's and lack of willingness to take active measures in the labor market. Hence, the pace of drawing near with the countries of the Western Balkans is rather slow and lagging behind the EU region. The current institutional realities in the Western Balkans are not yet able to respond effectively to the complex employment challenges. The Western Balkans, including Bulgaria, have a huge share of working-age people who emigrate to EU states. This will undoubtedly have an impact in the coming years on the labor market. With the accession of the Western Balkans to the EU arise the ever more likely and heavily negative scenario for Bulgaria to be grouped together with the Western Balkan countries and, subsequently, the formation of the Balkans as the second or third speed that could be formed within the EU.

9. Raychev, S., Madzhurova, B., Stoyanova, D., **Policies and innovations to promote economic growth and employment in the age of globalization**, 13th Economics & Finance Virtual Conference, Prague ISBN 978-80-87927-95-3, IISES DOI: 10.20472/EFC.2020.013.014 pp. 173-191

Abstract: Over the last two decades, economic relations have been marked by fundamental changes. Globalization, the fourth technological revolution, the global economic crisis of 2008 are only part of the challenges facing each national economy. Methods have been used to illustrate the dynamics of the time series by major economic indicators through graphical and tabular visualization tools. Cross - correlation analysis using statistical software is applied to investigate the relationship and the relationship between the indicators used. The survey was conducted in the context of Bulgaria and the EU28 over a ten-year period by economic sectors and demographic groups. There is a clear significant link between investment in innovation and lifelong learning on economic growth and the dynamics of the labor market. In today's rethinking economic doctrines,

the need to redefine economic policies is crucial in order to find the right path to manage the economic system through innovation, to enhance wealth through sustainable economic growth and an efficient labor market.

Self-assessment: Undoubtedly, from the results obtained of the empirical study, we reach the conclusion that knowledge, active measures and policies in the field of innovation as a leading factor, the expenditure in research and development, the lifelong learning as a public philosophy and economic necessity, the education and science, are vital both to the labor market and to the whole economic system. The commercial and financial markets, as well as the location of production, have become much more sensitive to the workforce, skills and qualifications, the cost of labor and labor policies. All that resulted in stimulating migration flows, driven by the desire for prosperity, jobs and remuneration. This pace of globalization of the labor market is increasingly raising the question of the effects and consequences on labor, labor relations and standards, and on the dynamics of the labor markets, as well as on the economic growth. Even within a generation, the many changes, creating opportunities and threatening the traditional national labor market frameworks, necessitate a better understanding and comprehension of these processes. The role of the state in the labor market through its legislation rules, regulations and policies, is called into question in today's ever more globalized world.

10.Stoyanova, D., Madzhurova, B., Dimitrova, G., & Raychev, S. (2020). **Promoting cooperation between higher education institutions and business.** Strategies for Policy in Science and Education Vol.28, Number 5, 2020, ISSN 1310–0270, pp.453-467

Annotation. This article examines the role of higher education institutions (HEIs) and the businesses in creating and disseminating innovations. The dynamics and the relationship between innovations and the main macroeconomic indicators for economic growth, labor market and income inequality in Bulgaria and the EU are empirically studied. The results show that the adopted direction of development by the EU and Bulgaria in the context of innovations - science, scientific achievements and public innovative approaches and policies, has a positive impact on the economic growth and the labor market.

Self-evaluation: The special contribution is in the investigation of the fundamental factors which lead to the creation, development and dissemination of innovations. The organizations, including universities and research centers, which are most responsible for creating innovations are

highlighted. We presented the positive effects of innovations on the economic growth and employment in Bulgaria and the EU. The challenge for the EU and Bulgaria to increase the economic growth by reducing the volume of one of the main social evils - inequality - is undoubtedly an extremely difficult task. In the conditions of intensified globalization of the economic relations, innovation and competitiveness are the way to achieve this much-desired sustainable development and growth. For the last ten years Bulgaria and the EU, through active investments from the business sector in addition to innovations from higher education institutions and active public policies, have managed to improve the functioning of the labor market, to increase the economic growth and to pause or slightly increase the income inequality. Bulgaria, with the support of the European policies, has achieved a lot in these challenging conditions, but also has defined its main priorities in terms of income and income inequality. The results clearly prove that the direction of development adopted by the EU and Bulgaria, in the context of innovations - science and scientific achievements and public innovative approaches and policies, proves positive on both the economic growth and the labor market.

The special contribution lies in deriving the effects of the investments in the research and development activities on the main components of the economic advance, such as economic growth and labor market. The leading role of innovation activity and dynamics in R&D expenditures to stimulate cooperation between universities and business is emphasized. In a comparative analysis we studied the relationships and dynamics by drawing conclusions on the role of innovation on the economic growth and the labor market.

11. Raychev, S., Dimitrova, G., Madzhurova, B., & Stoyanova, D. (2020). **Innovations as a Factor for Economic Growth and Labor Market Development**. *Marketing and Management of Innovations*, 3, 22-31. <http://doi.org/10.21272/mmi.2020.3-02> ISSN 2218-4511 (print); ISSN 2227-6718 (on-line)

Abstract. This paper summarises the arguments and counterarguments within the scientific discussion on the effects of R&D investment on the essential components of the economic development such as economic growth, competitiveness, labour market and inequality reduction. The main purpose of the research is to highlight the position of Bulgaria in the world economy concerning R&D development. In the article frame, the authors compared the R&D expenditures

dynamics of Bulgaria and the EU28 by the prism of innovations in business and higher education. Systematisation literary sources and approaches for solving the problem indicated that R&D caused the changes in the job market that led to the necessity to adjust the university system. There is currently a lag. Methodological tools of this research were as follows: the method of processing quantitative data, content and comparative analyses, situational and sectoral analyses, and graphical dynamic analysis. The object of research is the dynamics of investments in innovations in Bulgaria and EU28. The emphasis is placed on the role of research centres, enterprises, clusters and education institutions in R&D development to assess the level of innovation achieved through R&D.

Self-assessment. Undoubtedly, the cluster approach raises R&D to a new level and helps to bring universities and business together. Rethinking of the public policies and investing in technology centres will help for the adaptation to the new realities of the labour market. It would facilitate the processes of knowledge and technology transfer, in the context of the implementation of scientific developments and innovations in the practical activities and employability of the graduating students. Education has already placed and considered through the processes of globalisation, and its fast adaptation is the only way to respond to technological change. The obtained results of an empirical analysis showed that the cluster approach raised R&D to a new level and helped to bring universities and business together. Rethinking of the public policies and investing in technology centres will help for the adaptation to the new realities of the labour market. The research results could be useful for employers, high tech research centres and universities. This study is expected to be the base for further studies dedicated to boosting economic competitiveness and social welfare due to the promoting implementation of innovations.

TEXTBOOKS AND BOOKS

1. Stoyanova, D., Raychev, S., **Handbook of Economics**, University Publishing House “Paisii Hilendarski”, Plovdiv, 2018 ISBN 978-619-202-373-7.

Abstract: The Economics manual provides comprehensive data on the economic theory by focusing on two areas: on the one hand, it examines the behavior of the households and companies in the commodity and factor markets, highlighting the comparative analysis of the forms of market

organization and on the problems of market failures, and evidences the need for government intervention. On the other hand, it makes it possible to comprehend how the national market operates and how the economic sectors interact; what are the main macroeconomic problems, as well as the objectives, tools and consequences of the macroeconomic policies.

Self-assessment:The special contribution of this manual is found in the fact that through the multiple practical tasks, terminological apparatus and theoretical methodological structure of the main chapters, it is possible for students to: process and interpret economic information, as well as to build a reasoned opinion on the effects of the economic politics; make a professional analysis of the main economic problems and to develop a forecast; to analyze the economic reality and the issues of economic instability (cyclicality of production, inflation and unemployment); to acquire skills for the implementation of various policies in order to achieve the macroeconomic objectives; as well as to apply their knowledge in research.

2. Published books on the basis of dissertation for being appointed the educational and scientific degree of doctor, Stoyanova, D., **Macroeconomic analysis of youth unemployment and policies to overcome it.** , Book, Publishing House “Paisii Hilendarski”, Plovdiv, 2020, ISBN 978-619-202-551-9

Abstract: A macroeconomic analysis of youth unemployment is conducted in the book, examining the factors leading to its formation and the consequences of it. On the basis of this, an estimation of the potentialities of the applied policies on the labor market is carried out. Certain proposals are made for limiting the youth unemployment via application of more effective policies. This logical framework is developed in the three chapters of the dissertation. Chapter I describes the theoretical analysis and the instruments for assessing unemployment in the macroeconomic theory. Chapter II presents methods of analysis and evaluation of youth unemployment. In Chapter III, the simultaneous application of stabilizing macroeconomic policy and public policies on the labor market is backed with arguments as the most important condition for the effectiveness of the youth unemployment policies.

Self-assessment: The particular contribution is found in the fact that an attempt has been made to link youth unemployment to the macroeconomic toolkit. A special point is that it is regarded not only as a consequence of the dynamics of growth, but also as a problem of the natural level of

unemployment. This provides a theoretical basis for the policy for overcoming youth unemployment to be considered long-term and to justify its institutionalization. In the current study, youth unemployment is assessed comprehensively by deriving a wide range of indicators, some of which are not used in traditional assessment tools. The reasons are systematized, especially the impact of the macroeconomic indicators on the variations in youth unemployment, as well as its effects on the economic and demographic development. The content and goals of the policies for reduction of youth unemployment in the period 2007-2018 are analyzed, as well as the effectiveness of the specialized ALMPs (active labor market policies) for young people. The analysis includes data from strategies, programs, measures and initiatives of national and European policy and coincides chronologically with the planning period for EU funding. In this sense, it is important for understanding the results of our funding under the European programs in the segment of "youth unemployment". The joint implementation of stabilization macroeconomic policy and public policies on the labor market is theoretically reasoned as the most important condition for the effectiveness of youth policies against unemployment. Specific proposals and recommendations for reducing youth unemployment and for increasing the effectiveness of the implemented in Bulgaria are scientifically formulated.

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Plovdiv

Complied by:.....
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