

**ANNOTATIONS OF THE PRESENTED MATERIALS INCLUDING  
SELFASSSESSMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF CHIEF ASSIST. PROF. BLAGA  
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MONOGRAPHS

I. MONOGRAPHS

*1. Madzhurova, B. Social evils - connections with macroeconomic determinants and policies for overcoming them. Paisii Hilendarski University Publishing House, Plovdiv, 2021, ISBN 978-619-202-684-42021*

**Annotation:** Globally, after several consecutive economic crises caused by exogenous shocks to the economy, issues related to socio-economic problems have come out and much more extremely. After the unprecedented pandemic, social policy cannot be viewed in isolation from economic growth, but in the context of macroeconomic imbalances in Europe and Bulgaria. The topicality is in the management of the social dimensions of economic activity and this concept should be understood as an expanded generalized type of the current state of the economy, which assesses the dynamics of its long-term and cyclical component. Redistributive processes undoubtedly do not lose their significance, but fiscal pressures are intensifying, the threshold of social tolerance is decreasing if they are not accompanied by economic growth. The question was again raised as to whether poverty and inequality are the cause of lack of economic growth or whether lack of growth is the cause of poverty and inequality.

The world is facing many questions about macroeconomic determinants, fiscal austerity policies, but also the social dimensions of the crisis with changed realities in the labor market, accompanied by globalization, innovation and the digital economy. The crisis has exacerbated socio-economic problems. Income inequality continues to rise, so does poverty, and EU countries face even more serious challenges in recovering from the pandemic. Eradicating poverty and reducing inequality has always been and remains the number one priority. Accelerating economic growth is an accepted goal in any anti-poverty strategy. However, the issue of inequality is often largely ignored. Rising inequality threatens growth and poverty reduction. In order to achieve global goals, it is essential to make growth policies more favorable to distribution. Growth can generate prosperity and opportunities. Strong growth and employment opportunities improve incentives to invest in all aspects of social policy and tackle

social evils, as well as increase the effectiveness of redistributive policies. This can also lead to increased investment. Therefore, strong economic growth accelerates human development, which in turn promotes economic growth. However, it should be borne in mind that under different conditions, similar growth rates can have very different effects on poverty, the employment prospects of the poor and broader human development indicators. The extent to which growth reduces poverty depends on the extent to which the poor participate in its process and share in its income. A successful poverty reduction strategy must be based on key measures to promote rapid and sustainable economic growth. The challenge is to combine policies to promote growth with policies that enable the poor to participate fully and thus contribute to it. This includes public policies that need to be built for the better functioning of labor markets, the elimination of inequalities, investment and increased financial inclusion while constantly monitoring macroeconomic determinants. The question that is now on the agenda is again whether redistributive processes are detrimental to growth but reduce social evils or not.

**Self-assessment:** The contribution of the present study is to look at social policy through the prism of growth and in the context of macroeconomic imbalances. It also comes in response to the call for more in-depth empirical work on growth and change in distribution. A solution is being sought on how the social dimension of economic activity should actually be managed and which influences and helps to overcome social evils. This should serve as a basis for the formation of sustainable, modern and effective public policies. Theoretically complex and multilayered links activity, growth, inequality and macroeconomic determinants are analyzed; activity, growth, poverty and macroeconomic determinants; activity, growth, poverty, inequality. Empirical research aims to further develop the theoretical aspects and give a new look at these dependencies. It is based on the connections and interactions between economic processes. The methods of economic statistics such as descriptive analysis, correlation analysis, trend and regression analysis, time series analysis, econometric analysis, etc. were used. through software. The general conclusion of the empirical study on reducing disparities with the EU and improving the situation in the social dimensions of the economic system in the so-called social evils in Bulgaria is that there are several factors that clearly and categorically positively and negatively affect them. On the one hand, economic growth, investment, and the efficient functioning of the labor market are proving to be strong factors in increasing public welfare. On the other hand, inflation has a visibly negative effect. Regarding the role of active economic

policy based on debt and fiscal restrictions, its results are not so clear and somewhat controversial. The explanation lies in the way in which the funds for deflation and debt policy are implemented through economic and social policy. The lack of efficiency in the distribution of funds and the implemented measures creates on the one hand a controversial result of state intervention in the social sphere, and on the other hand is a field for further research on improving efficiency based on results and good European practices.

The results of the empirical research are presented and on this basis the public policies with their strengths and weaknesses are analyzed. The complex and multi-layered structure of social evils and the possibilities for overcoming them lead to the need to restructure the policies of the EU and Bulgaria.

2. *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 978-619-202-4420*

**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 Page 4 of 22 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 wellbeing 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 research is largely the conclusion about the role of public policies, which at this stage fail to contribute to the rapprochement of Bulgaria and the EU and this is a signal for their rethinking. Moreover, the accession of the Western Balkans to the EU creates an increasingly probable and highly negative scenario for Bulgaria to put us in a group with the countries of the Western Balkans and the formation of the Balkans as a second or third speed, which could be formed within the EU. Causal analysis was used, through which an in-depth assessment of social cohesion was made and the bipolar function of social cohesion was revealed - as an independent and effective variable. The basic theoretical concepts regarding social cohesion as a function of social inclusion serve as a basis for understanding the state of social cohesion, the factors for its emergence, as well as its consequences; social cohesion as a function of social capital; and social cohesion as a function of institutions (policies pursued). It is of particular importance to highlight the importance of pursuing an effective social policy in order to achieve greater social cohesion. Although social cohesion is a function of

social inclusion and social capital, effective institutional interventions are needed to make them possible. On the one hand, social inclusion is a result of good policy, including the protection of social rights, the promotion of quality education and hence - active inclusion in the labor market, which is an opportunity for access to financial resources. On the other hand, social capital is a consequence of the social interaction of individuals, but in order to be qualitative, it is carried out in accordance with certain institutional norms and rules that promote the formation of a socially cohesive society.

3. 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 contribution of the research is largely in the presentation and interpretation of the different countries and mechanisms of the studied relationship - globalization / innovation - employment, as well as in the detailed analysis of the tools for evaluating innovation. This monograph has greatly contributed to a deeper understanding of the link between globalization and jobs. In recent years, globalization has changed dramatically in some sectors, in others less, the preferences of individuals for employment, employers' demand for quality and quantity of labor force to possess knowledge and skills related to new economic realities, technology, automation and robotics. Globalization has had the strongest impact on the labor market through the influence of technology, changing the very understanding of even the workplace and employment. In this sense, this is 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 had 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 goods. and services. Moreover, recent decades have undoubtedly seen the rapid development of technology, including digital platforms, and the emergence of the 'gig' economy, which has had a significant impact on economic sectors. This phenomenon is already defined as the "fourth industrial revolution", part of globalization and innovation processes. Globalization, technological progress and demographic change are the factors that have a profound impact on the competencies associated with new jobs, which requires a rethinking of the overall education policy. As a result, the new jobs that have emerged under the influence of globalization require, in addition to various skills and competencies, a new form of public policy management. Traditional social protection systems, labor market regulations, and tax policy will no longer perform their functions in the face of the new reality. Otherwise, there is a risk of increasing poverty and hence inequality. Governments can no longer delay reforming their systems, but must look for new opportunities to ensure efficient transfers and economic growth.

## II. 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 special contribution of the research is in highlighting the role of education as a factor in achieving cohesion and reducing imbalances between the EU and the Western Balkans. In the context of sensitive education policy and the forthcoming EU enlargement, innovation measures will need to be thoroughly analyzed. The implementation of a new type of cohesion policy in the field of education will be necessary due to the different socio-economic development of the member states. Cohesion is the foundation on which the future united and economically developed union will be built. Conclusions are drawn regarding the education policies in Bulgaria. The planned funds from the ESF and the Cohesion Funds are used and spent with a lag.

#### 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:** A particular contribution is the study of the Eastern European group of "working poor" and their relationship to key macroeconomic indicators. The problem is that they are already forming a lasting trend, and the low cost of labor has no future in an economy based on knowledge and lifelong learning. The solution to the problem of the working poor cannot be

easily found, because the labor market is analyzed independently, and unemployment and employment are inextricably linked to the social system, macroeconomic policy and education. On the one hand, the "working poor" are both a cause and a consequence of economic growth. The results of the survey show that the problem for the working poor is not only the low minimum wage, but also the low level of total income distributed among household members. Poverty among the working people is due to many factors - low wages; insufficient hours; low income; household size and type; lack of work qualification and low educational level; low labor intensity, etc. All these factors must be taken into account in the conduct of public and especially 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, Volume 12, 2018 ISSN 1314-7242*

**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 publication is the results obtained on the basis of an empirical study conducted on the basis of primary statistics, namely a field study through in-depth interviews with young adults and experts. Based on the information gathered in the nine national reports, the different perceptions of social expectations that underlie policies and initiatives have been identified, thus measuring individuals' ability to create subjective meaning. The study of the life course emphasizes how problems in one dimension of life put pressure on the behavior of people in other dimensions of life. In addition, this part of the research also raises the question of how the experience of young adults coincides with the views of experts. Cultural political economy then explores how policies are chosen from many alternatives, and sometimes how target groups are built according to that choice. Thus,

vulnerable young adults are expected to meet social norms set by others. This is a really complex semiotic process in which policy makers define the direction of development and professionals develop their experience. The result is a set of combinations between hierarchical and network management. The main conclusion that follows from the analysis is that most of the young people interviewed in this study believe that lifelong learning policies ultimately help them.

*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 longterm 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 publication is related to the study of the need for fiscal consolidation of the new EU member states, on the one hand, but also on the social price that society pays for it. The dynamics of the main macroeconomic aggregates and indicators of state intervention, such as public revenues, expenditures and assessment of their role in the economic system, are analyzed. 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 constant or difficult to change government expenditures may hinder the achievement of budgetary targets.

The important factors that have a decisive influence on the results of fiscal consolidation are 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. 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:** The main contribution of the study is that it examines the current issue of the accession of the Western Balkans to the EU and the impact it will have on Bulgaria. The question is whether this will not have a negative impact on our country and whether it will not fall into the same group with them, thus forming the Balkans as a second or third speed within the EU. The results achieved show that inequality in market incomes for the working age population remains high, and this is a factor that strongly influences the lack of progress in the convergence of the Western Balkans and the EU. Poverty, high unemployment, the gray economy, low wages, corruption, abuse of office, emigration of skilled workers, discrimination against minorities and brain drain are issues that affect all countries in the Western Balkans.

*5. 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, ISBN 978-619-202- 565-6, pp. 620-628*

**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:** This study shows the importance of lifelong learning policies that lead to economic growth and social inclusion of all groups and especially those at risk, such as young adults. The results of the study show that concrete steps need to be taken to integrate into the primary positions of the labor market or to reintegrate into the education and training system; gaining some general work experience; providing practical knowledge and skills; facilitating the formal recognition of informally acquired professional skills; acquisition of new skills and knowledge, especially practical competencies; enhancing the competencies of young adults in order to increase their competitiveness, develop and upgrade their career or day-to-day management skills, as well as their lifelong learning abilities. All workers who are the cause of the changing reality of the labor market must learn throughout their lives. Lifelong learning, public policies and the efforts of participants towards them today are without an alternative and mandatory condition for improving the well-being of society.

*6. 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, ISBN 978-619-202-565-6, pp. 222-237*

**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 main contribution of the research is to highlight the importance of social entrepreneurship, especially for vulnerable groups. It is the opportunity they have to integrate into the labor market, and hence into public life. Social enterprises achieve this goal by prioritizing it and directing the distribution of profits, namely to the creation of new jobs. The difficulties for social entrepreneurship in Bulgaria related to the provision of financial resources are analyzed and presented; hiring employees; the development of entrepreneurial skills; providing an institutional and legal basis and greater transparency in the work of institutions, etc. Emphasis is placed on the role of the social entrepreneur and social entrepreneurship, which are generally the engine of the social economy. The need for the implementation of 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 implementation of civil, economic, social and political rights, and on the other hand, representatives of at-risk social groups.

*7. 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, Page 15 of 22 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:** This study contributes to the understanding of lifelong learning policies through cross-analysis. They are undoubtedly crucial for the development of the

economy, but the analysis also shows that throughout Europe they have been repeatedly described as highly fragmented and often contradictory in terms of their objectives, target groups and implementation. They can lead to unintended effects when they are not suitable for very diverse target groups, although they aim to improve economic growth and social inclusion for young adults. In particular, firstly, with regard to measures targeting young adults, there may be a lack of coordinated policy development; secondly, with regard to the high fragmentation of policies, different effects can be observed in different contexts, raising the question that these policies are appropriately tailored to their target groups.

8. 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, Sofia, 2020, ISSN 2367-5489, pp.81-98*

**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:** This study contributes to a better understanding of the impact of innovation and technological progress on the labor market and economic growth. This is done through an analysis of the labor market and its connection with new technologies. Through the use of digital technologies, entrepreneurs create global platforms different from 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.

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, Page 18 of 22 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:** This research contributes to a better understanding of the relationship between innovation and sustainable growth. The new nature of jobs and the evaluation of public policies are seen in three fundamental interrelated dimensions: globalization, technological progress and demographic change. The analysis shows that the new jobs created under the influence of the three dimensions require, in addition to different skills and competencies, a new form of public policy management. Labor market regulations will no longer perform their functions facing the new reality. Otherwise, there is a risk of increasing poverty, and hence inequality and inability to grow. Governments can no longer delay reforming their systems, but must look for new opportunities to ensure efficient transfers and economic growth. This problem is even more complex in the context of the global financial and economic crisis of 2008, which forced them to pay increasing attention to fiscal stability and maintaining social sustainability, which means preventing deprivation. from the level of prosperity and loss of human capital achieved, on the one hand, and the maintenance of sustainable economic growth, on the other, which requires financing with higher taxes or social security contributions, structural reforms or an increase in government debt. Non-standard forms of employment, the result of globalization and innovation processes, have become a modern feature of labor markets around the 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* **Abstract:** 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-assessment:** The special contribution is in deriving the effects of investments in research and development on the main components of economic development such as economic growth and the labor market. The leading role of innovation activity and dynamics in R&D expenditures to stimulate cooperation between universities and business is emphasized. The connection and dynamics in a comparative analysis are studied by drawing conclusions and conclusions about the role of innovation on economic growth and the labor market. The main factors that lead to the creation, development and dissemination of innovations are highlighted. The organizations, including universities and research centers, that are most responsible for creating innovation are analyzed. The positive effects of innovation on economic growth and employment in Bulgaria and the EU are presented. The challenge for the EU and Bulgaria to increase economic growth by reducing the size of one of the main social evils - inequality - is undoubtedly an extremely difficult task. In the conditions of intensified globalization of economic relations, it is innovation and competitiveness that are the way to achieve this much-desired sustainable development and growth.

*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:** This study contributes to deriving the effects of R&D investment on key components of economic development such as economic growth and the labor market. The leading role of innovation activity and dynamics in R&D expenditures to stimulate cooperation between universities and business is emphasized. The connection and dynamics in a comparative analysis are studied by drawing conclusions and conclusions about the role of innovation on economic growth and the labor market. The cluster approach takes R&D to a new level and helps bring universities and businesses together. Rethinking public policies and investing in technology centres will contribute to adapting to new realities in the labor market. This would facilitate the processes of knowledge and technology transfer, in the context of the application of scientific developments and innovations in practical activities and the employability of graduates. Education is set up and addressed through the processes of globalization, and its rapid adaptation is the only way to respond to technological change. The results of the empirical analysis show that the cluster approach raises research and development to a new level and supports the unification of universities and business.

#### BOOK BASED ON PROTECTED DISSERTATION WORK

*1. Madzhurova, B. Social transfers between fiscal pressure and social tolerance. University Publishing House "Paisii Hilendarski" Plovdiv, 2020, ISBN 978-619-202-556-4*

**Abstract:** The present study examines the relationship between social transfers and fiscal pressure, which is also the inability to sacrifice social tolerance in order to overcome it. Existing definitions are considered, systematized and classified. For the purposes of this paper, a

definition of social transfers has been adopted. Social transfers are costs that are transferred through taxes and the budget from one entity and institution to another. In this sense, transfers depend on the determination of the conditions that make them lawful to be received by individuals, families and institutions, as well as on the circumstances that determine the right to transfers. The need for social transfers arises from the moral and ethical values that every society professes. Social transfers are part of the state's policy for the reproduction of human capital - a major factor in the production of goods, services and public goods. They aim to reduce social inequalities in society, to help people who, due to disability or other life problems, cannot ensure a normal existence on their own. At the same time, social transfers put significant pressure on the consolidated government budget and their growth relative to gross domestic product is at the expense of economic growth or leads to an increase in domestic and external debt. Fiscal consolidation policies, including cuts in public spending, including social transfers, reduce this pressure. At the same time, it can only be carried out within certain socially tolerable limits. The degree of this social tolerance is expressed in the prevention of deprivation of the achieved level of well-being, in the avoidance of erosion of human capital and social institutions with future negative effects on economic growth. Policies of social transfers and fiscal consolidation should not be opposed; they should be considered as alternatives. They are two sides of the same coin, and maintaining a socially acceptable balance between these two countries is a measure of the face value of that coin. The more these policies lead to a higher level of public satisfaction, the higher the face value.

**Self-assessment:** The relationship between the fiscal pressure exerted by social transfers on the consolidated budget, on the one hand, and the public tolerance of the fiscal consolidation policy aimed at limiting them, on the other hand, is shown. Thus, increasing the efficiency of social transfers through structural reforms is presented as an unalterable solution to the problem of growing fiscal pressure, formed under the influence of a number of objective and subjective factors in the Bulgarian economy. The area of socially acceptable social and fiscal policies is considered not as a static state (standard), but as a dynamic macroeconomic, socio-political and demographic environment, determined by the relationship between fiscal pressure and social tolerance. The systematization of the definitions, architecture and classifications of social transfers, made for the purposes of the dissertation research allows to derive an original classification of social transfers according to their contribution (direct and indirect) to GDP growth. By applying correlation, regression analysis of empirical data and testing an ILO model adapted for the purposes of the study, it is shown that the scope of social transfers in Bulgaria is at a normal level for the EU, but the problem is the effectiveness of transfers in terms of risk of poverty. Based on a comparative analysis between Bulgaria and the EU and through the tools of descriptive statistics, an attempt was made to measure their ineffectiveness in relation to this risk. By examining the sectoral social policies on the horizontal and vertical axes "fiscal pressure - social tolerance", their analysis has been enriched and recommendations have been made for their development and improvement. In addition, these policies are linked to such important macroeconomic imbalances in the Bulgarian economy as the structure of government revenues, structural disparities in the labor market, the disrupted dynamics of aggregate demand and the retention of economic growth.

## TEXTBOOK

*1. Hristoskov, J., Madzhurova, B. Social policy. University Publishing House "Paisii Hilendarski" Plovdiv, 2020, ISBN 978-619-202-561-8*

**Annotation:** The textbook provides in-depth knowledge in the theory of social policy. It is structured in two parts: 1. theoretical part of the textbook, which focuses on conceptual issues of social policy: the nature, subject and object of this scientific discipline; basic definitions and principles; the politico-economic and ideological foundations of social policy; models of social development; income and its distribution and redistribution; the nature and 19

classification of social transfers. Central to this is the idea of the welfare state and social policy models; 2. The second part focuses on certain policies and substantive law, the institutional structure and the real problems of the main social protection programs: poverty reduction and inequality; labor, employment and unemployment; Social Security; healthcare; education; protection and integration of people with disabilities; social entrepreneurship; corporate social policy and corporate social responsibility, as well as the European social model. The economic approach was used in the development.

**Self-assessment:** The textbook is aimed at students studying economics and social sciences. It is also available for readers who would like to get acquainted with this specific area and deepen their knowledge in it. Both classical concepts and modern research are used, complementing the knowledge of social policy, which gives relevance and significance to the textbook. The topics are clearly separated and begin with a brief summary. Keywords are displayed after each topic. The used literature is indicated after each part of the textbook.

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