

To the attention of

The members of the Scientific jury, formed by Order No. ПД 21-438 of 24.02.2023 of the Rector of Plovdiv University Paisii Hilendarski (PU) for defence of the dissertation of doctoral student Radoslav Yordanov Mitev from the Department of Public Law at the Faculty of Law (FL) of Plovdiv University

## OPINION

by Assoc. Prof. Nadezhda Hristova Hristova, PhD

Faculty of Law, University of National and World Economy

**About:** Dissertation presented for defence by the doctoral student Radoslav Yordanov Mitev for obtaining the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the field of higher education 3. "Social, economic and legal sciences", professional field 3.6. "Law", scientific specialty/doctoral program "Administrative Law and Administrative Process" on the topic "Local Self-Government in Cities with District Division" with academic supervisor Assoc. Prof. Konstantin Pehlivanov Ph.D from the Faculty of Law at Plovdiv University Paisii Hilendarski

### Dear members of the Scientific jury,

As a member of the Scientific Jury, formed by Order No. ПД 21-438 of 24.02.2023 of the Rector of Plovdiv University for evaluation of the dissertation entitled "Local Self-Government in Cities with District Division" of the doctoral student Radoslav Yordanov Mitev from the Department of Public Law at the Faculty of Law at Plovdiv University Paisii Hilendarski, I present you my opinion:

### 1. General presentation of the procedure and the doctoral student

The doctoral student has presented a set of materials on paper and electronic media in accordance with Art. 36 of Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of Plovdiv University. He has presented three scientific publications on the topic of her dissertation. In connection with the accomplishment of the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3 of Academic Staff Development Act of Republic of Bulgaria (ASDARB) and Art. 1a, para. 1 of Implementation Regulations of the Academic Staff Development Act of Republic of Bulgaria (IRASDARB), my assessment of the number of points achieved by the dissertation author on the indicators defined in the Annex to Art. 1a, para. 1 of IRASDARB for the field of higher education 3. "Social, economic and legal sciences", professional field 3.6. "Law" is as follows: for group of indicators A - with a minimum of 50, performance 50; for group of indicators B and C - there are no mandatory minimum requirements; for group of indicators D - with a minimum of 30, performance 30; for group of indicators E and f - there are no mandatory minimum requirements. I consider that Radoslav Yordanov Mitev meets the regulatory requirements, and in particular Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3 of ASDARB, art. 1a, para. 1 of IRASDARB and Art. 30, Art. 31, Art. 32, para. 2 and Art. 33, para. 1 of Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of Plovdiv University, for admission of a dissertation to defence procedure.

## **2. Topic Relevance**

The dissertation presented by Radoslav Yordanov Mitev is dedicated to important issues, both for theory and practice -Local Self-Government in Cities with District Division. The research of the questions posed in the dissertation is a challenge for every researcher. In this regard, the goals and objectives are appropriately and successfully formulated in the dissertation by the doctoral student.

## **3. Knowledge of the problem**

From the content of the dissertation it can be concluded that Radoslav Yordanov Mitev knows very well the state of the issues he is reviewing. Indicative of the knowledge of the problem is: the overall implementation of the tasks set by the doctoral student in the dissertation; the in-depth study of legal doctrine and case law; the logical and substantiated proposals made in the dissertation for improvement of the institutional framework in order to effectively counteract corruption.

## **4. Research methodology**

In the presented dissertation work "Local Self-Government in Cities with District Division" there are used primarily general scientific methods of knowledge - historical law method, comparative law method, inductive and deductive method, which allows to achieve the goals and objectives of the dissertation.

## **5. Characteristics and assessment of the dissertation and its contribution**

Structurally, the dissertation consists of: introduction; 4 chapters, conclusion and bibliography. The volume of the dissertation is 203 pages.

The presented research has the significance and the necessary qualities of a dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor". In structural and content terms, the presented dissertation is a very good indicator of creative activity and purposeful research abilities of the doctoral student. This is an in-depth and analytical work. In my opinion, this work is characterized by scientific novelty, relevance, as well as practical orientation.

I evaluate the exposition in the dissertation as purposeful and meaningful. It is accompanied by separate comparisons and distinctions, substantiation of conclusions and proposals. The scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the dissertation are essential and useful for the legal doctrine and practice of the respective state bodies. Some specific scientific and scientific-applied contributions in the dissertation can be pointed out:

- 1) useful analysis of the legal status of the mayor of a region;
- 2) the analysis of the acts of the mayor of a region has a significant contribution;
- 3) the analysis of the powers of the mayor of a region, to which the third chapter of the dissertation is dedicated, is of contributing importance.
- 4) the comparative legal analysis of local self-government and regional division in some European cities - Paris, Budapest, Athens - is also of significant contribution.
- 5) with emphasized contribution importance are the substantiated proposals de lege ferenda, which the doctoral student made in the dissertation, etc.

## **6. Assessment of the doctoral student's publications and personal contribution**

The doctoral student has presented three scientific publicat - two articles and one report. The presented publications examine current issues related to the topic of the dissertation. Radoslav Mitev's personal acievement is the scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the dissertation and the presented scientific reports. The doctoral student correctly referred to doctrinal sources.

## **7. Abstract**

The abstract clearly and precisely states the purpose, object, subject and tasks of the research. It is developed at a good level and fully reflects the content of the dissertation and the results achieved.

## **8. Recommendations for future use of dissertation contributions and results**

Due to the relevance of the researched issues, I recommend Radoslav Yordanov Mitev to publish the dissertation as a monograph.

## **CONCLUSION**

1. I declare that the dissertation "Local Self-Government in Cities with District Division" contains scientific and scientific-applied results, which represent an original contribution to science and meet the requirements of Art. 6, para. 3 of Academic Staff Development Act of Republic of Bulgaria, art. 27, para. 2 of Implementation Regulations of the Academic Staff Development Act of Republic of Bulgaria, and Art. 32, para. 1 and 2 of Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of Plovdiv University. At the same time, this dissertation shows that Radoslav Yordanov Mitev has in-depth theoretical knowledge and professional skills in the scientific specialty "Administrative Law and Administrative Process" by demonstrating qualities and skills for independent research. Therefore, the doctoral student meets the requirements of Art. 6, para. 1 of Academic Staff Development Act of Republic of Bulgaria, art. 24-26 of Implementation Regulations of the Academic Staff Development Act of Republic of Bulgaria, and Art. 29, 30, 31 and 32, para. 1 and 2 of Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of Plovdiv University.

2. In connection with the above, pursuant to Art. 10, para. 1 of ASDARB, art. 32, para. 1 of IRASDARB and Art. 38, para. 1 of RDASPU, I give my positive assessment of the scientific research conducted by Radoslav Yordanov Mitev .

3. I propose to the respected scientific jury, formed by Order No. ПД 21-438 of 24.02.2023 of the Rector of Plovdiv University Paisii Hilendarski, on the grounds of art. 11, para. 4 of ASDARB, art. 34, para. 1 of IRASDARB and Art. 29 of RDASPU, to award the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" to Radoslav Yordanov Mitev in the field of higher education 3. "Social, economic and legal sciences", professional field 3.6. "Law", scientific specialty "Administrative Law and Administrative Process".

Sofia, 3<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Opinion by:

(Assoc. Prof. Nadezhda Hristova, PhD)