

STANDPOINT

on the dissertation of doctoral fellow Lyuben Georgiev Manolov on the topic: „ Revivalist nationalism and guaranteeing the security of the Bulgarian society during the collapse of the Ottoman Empire (70s of the 18th century – 80s of the 19th century)“ for awarding the educational scientific degree “Philosophy Doctor” (Ph.D.)

Author: Teodor Danailov Detchev Ph. D.

Associate Professor

§ 1. The dissertation of Lyuben Georgiev Manolov entitled „Revivalist nationalism and guaranteeing the security of the Bulgarian society during the collapse of the Ottoman Empire (70s of the 18th century – 80s of the 19th century)“ with supervisor Assoc. Prof. Snezhana Dimitrova Ph.D., covers 233 pages. 212 ,ages form the main body text; 13 pages (pp. 213 - 225) are the authors notes, concerning the separate chapters, presented at the end of the text of the dissertation and 8 pages are occupied by the list of the literature and documentary sources used in the dissertation (pp. 226 - 233).

The presented dissertation fully meets the quantitative and qualitative requirements for such a work, even exceeding them to some extent.

The list of sources and used literature covers a total of 248 titles. Sixty one (61) titles of them are cited as “documentary sources of the epoch”; 156 titles are scientific literature in Bulgarian; 31 titles are in foreign languages.

The body of the used literature can be assessed as comprehensive and shows the depth of the research.

§ 2. The actuality and the relevance of the work is beyond any doubt. Here are a few important points to emphasize. First of all, the chosen topic is from the category of problems that not only tolerate and endure but also require constant return to them. Here we can draw a parallel with the historical research on the church struggles of the Bulgarian people, where we witness at least three

researchers with fundamental works on the subject, belonging to different generations of scientists - Todor Burmov¹, Peter Nikov² and Zina Markova³.

There are issues in the humanities to which the return of each succeeding generation of scientists is both necessary and inevitable, due to the need for a new and new understanding of facts and events.

In today's situation, when Bulgarians are looking for their place in the European order and in the world disorder, at a time when, where either in good faith, or for purely advertising reasons, today's researchers rethink entire periods of Bulgarian history and even the question of Bulgarians origin is an issue of fierce debate, the topic chosen by Lyuben Manolov is more than adequate.

§ 3. The very fact that the doctoral fellow (doctoral student), calls things by their proper names and has already placed in title of his dissertation the construction “Bulgarian Revivalist nationalism”, should be welcomed. Here I would like to comment on two more adjectives that are used by the doctoral fellow (student), almost constantly in combination with “Bulgarian Revivalist nationalism” - these are the attributes “protective” and “constructive”.

We have to agree with the two attributes, used by the doctoral fellow (student), mostly because he very precisely limits the historical time in which Bulgarian nationalism is constructive and protective.

Practically, in the dissertation, the demarcation line is drawn after the Unification of the Principality of Bulgaria and Eastern Rumelia (Rumelia Orientales), which is both the culmination and the final chord of the constructive and protective “Bulgarian Revivalist nationalism”.

As a member of the scientific jury, I accept the time range justified by the doctoral fellow.

Moreover, I consider the determination of the time limits within which the Bulgarian Revivalist nationalism can be unconditionally considered as

¹ Бурмов, Тодор, Българо-гръцката църковна разпра, С., 1902 г.

² Ников, Петър, Възраждане на българския народ, С., 1929 г.

³ Маркова, Зина, Българското църковно-национално движение до Кримската война, Издателство на Българската академия на науките, С., 1974 г., В: Зина Маркова, Избрани съчинения, Т. 1, Академично издателство „Проф. Марин Дринов”, С., 2007 г.

Маркова, Зина, Българската Екзархия 1870 – 1879, Издателство на Българската академия на науките, С., 1989 г., В: Зина Маркова, Избрани съчинения, Т. 1, Академично издателство „Проф. Марин Дринов”, С., 2007 г.

constructive and protective, accompanied by the respective argumentation as a scientific contribution in the dissertation work.

§ 4. It should be emphasized that one of the serious merits of Lyuben Manolov's work is the adopted comparative approach between the different types of Balkan nationalism.

§ 5. As a member of the scientific jury I accept the working theses and hypotheses in the dissertation and I think that working on them the doctoral fellow (student) has achieved certain scientific contributions.

§ 6. As a member of the scientific jury, I accept the literature review, considering that it has created a very good theoretical foundation of the doctoral dissertation.

As a member of the scientific jury, I recommend the doctoral fellow (student), in his future work, to pay attention to the theory of "ethnicity", developed by Nikolai Mikhailovich Mogilyansky (1871-1933) and Sergei Mikhailovich Shirokogorov (1907-1939).

The concept of "ethnicity" was launched by Mogilyansky, but the first very serious and thorough development of the theory of ethnicity belongs to Shirokogorov. For the doctoral fellow (student), Shirokogorov's concept could be interesting because of some very obvious parallels between Prof. Anthony Smith's views on the nation and Sergei Shirokogorov's views on ethnicity.

As a member of the scientific jury, I draw the attention of the doctoral student to the expediency of focusing on the study of the works of Shirokogorov and Mogilyansky, especially in the context of his future possible pedagogical activity, for which he has created a serious basis.

§ 7. The classification of the types of nationalism, proposed by the doctoral fellow (student) deserves special attention. In the future, it may be advisable for the doctoral student to continue to deal with the classification of both nationalist ideologies and nationalist practices.

As a member of the scientific jury, I keep my reservations regarding the statement that the PKK is a social democratic party, on page 40. Neither by any

criteria nor “formally” (as membership in a supranational social democratic formation), the PKK can be categorized as part of the social democratic movement.

At least formally, among the organizations categorized as terrorist at one time or another, this is true of Al Fatah and the Armenian Revolutionary Federation - Dashnaktsutyun, but not of the PKK. Of course, this is a minor inaccuracy that in no way diminishes the scientific value of the dissertation.

The reviewer believes that there is definitely a contribution in the doctoral fellow's (student's) work on the classification of types of nationalism, which should be deepened in his future scientific and pedagogical work.

§ 8. As a member of the scientific jury, I welcome the doctoral student's historical approach and his tendency to look at the developments over long historical intervals. This is one of the virtues of his work.

§ 9. It is worth emphasizing that one of the contributions of the dissertation is the very good explanation for the accumulation of the "democracy deficit" in the newly created Serbian state.

§ 10. As a member of the scientific jury, I consider that the analysis of the contribution of Sofroniy Vrachanski in the foundations of the Bulgarian political science is a serious scientific contribution of the dissertation. In Bulgarian political science, the question of Sophronius' contribution to Bulgarian political science is practically a white field. In Bulgarian political science, the question of Sophronius' contribution to Bulgarian political science is practically a white field.

§ 11. As a member of the scientific jury, I propose to the doctoral fellow (student) to place in his future research work an accent on the role of the Crimean War for the sharp acceleration of the process of economic revival of the Bulgarians and the process of nation building.

The two processes are interconnected, they are in close synergy. The economic revival created a material basis for the construction of the Bulgarian educational system.

Again, the economic revival gave a certain confidence to throw down the gauntlet - first against the corruption in the Patriarchate of Constantinople, and then against the consistent after 1850 policy of "Hellenization" by the "Phanariots".

The doctoral fellow (student) showed a sense of the question of the place of the Bulgarians in the strategic branches of the economy in the Ottoman Empire, including his comments on the metallurgy in Samokov and the development of "tufekchiystvo" (making weapons). But the topic is much broader and deserves to be developed in greater depth. Even without going into details, explaining the correlation between the acquired, albeit formal rights, the economic rise and the building of the Bulgarian nation, could be a serious scientific contribution in the future work of the doctoral fellow (student).

§ 12. One of the merits of the dissertation is the demonstrated good sense of the role of demographic trends in the historical development, respectively in the security of a certain community. The doctoral fellow (student) correctly points out the connection between the growing share of the young population and the "energization" of the Bulgarian society. In support of his claim, it can be pointed out that there is fundamental research that has proven a similar connection in the case of the Epoch of the Reformation and in the case of the "Arab Spring".

In this sense, the doctoral fellow's (student's) finding about the relationship between the need for demographic growth due to economic reasons and the changes in the consciousness of the Bulgarian population is a scientific contribution and deserves to be developed further in his future research work.

Finally, in conclusion, as a member of the scientific jury, I declare that:

I consider indisputable the relevance of the problem developed in the dissertation in scientific and even in applied scientific terms, taking in account the benefits that would have the readers of the work, who deal with the global problems of national security.

I consider that the doctoral fellow (student) knows in depth the state of the art of the problem and has presented indisputable evidence in the form of an in-depth literature review and analysis of the existing sources.

I consider the methodology used to be correct and justified.

I consider the dissertation of Lyuben Georgiev Manolov and his contributions to be a completely personal work of the doctoral fellow (student), performed at a high scientific level.

So far, the doctoral fellow (student) has made five scientific publications of parts of the dissertation in scientific issues (magazines) that are referenced by NACID and which are fully adequate to the topic of the research. According to their qualitative and quantitative indicators, they fully meet the requirements for publishing separate parts of the dissertation.

I consider the dissertation abstract (автореферат) to be prepared according to the rules. It fully adequately reflects the content of the dissertation, the publications of its parts made in connection with it and the scientific contributions made.

I consider that the listed contributions made in the dissertation of Lyuben Georgiev Manolov and identified and mentioned in the dissertation abstract represent real scientific achievements and should be recognized as such.

I consider that in the dissertation there are a number of achievements that also have the character of scientific contributions, but are not identified by the doctoral fellow (student) as contributions in the dissertation abstract. They could be very good directions in which the research work of the doctoral fellow (student) to continue in the future.

I recommend that the text of the dissertation should be published as a monographic study, immediately after its defense in front of the scientific jury.

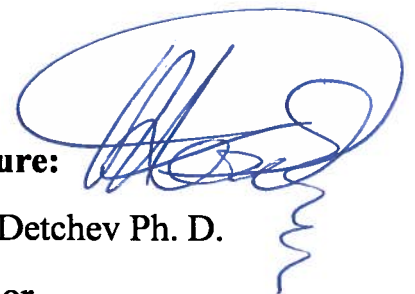
Overall general conclusion:

Based on the positive statements just presented above, concerning the present dissertation, I strongly recommend to the esteemed scientific jury to award Lyuben Georgiev Manolov the educational-scientific degree "Philosophy Doctor" (Ph.D.).

December 14-th, 2020.

Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Signature:



Teodor Danailov Detchev Ph. D.

Associate Professor