

## R E C E N Z I A

according to an announced competition for the academic position "docent", in the scientific specialty "Organization and management outside the sphere of material production (internal order and security)", in the field of higher education 9, "Security and defense", professional direction 9.1. "National security", - Economic and financial security, announced in SG no. 89 of 08.11.2022

Candidate in the competition is Dr. Martin Mashlan

Author of the review: Prof. Ph.D. Lubomir Kirilov Timchev

### I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF MATERIALS SUBMITTED

In the list of scientific publications of the candidate in the competition for associate professor - Dr. Mashlan, 12 titles are included, of which 11 are for review.

They can be classified into the following groups:

- Monographs - 1;
- Articles and scientific reports - 7;
- Teaching aids - 3.

The works submitted for review were issued after receiving the scientific degree "doctor". In addition, they fully comply with the requirements for scientometric indicators, with a view to occupying the academic position "associate professor".

## II. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CANDIDATE'S TEACHING AND RESEARCH ACTIVITY

According to its purpose, Dr. Mashlan's research activity is dedicated to some of the current issues related to the protection of national security and, in particular, economic security. It is about both security and risk management in the area of economic security. A significant place is devoted to the study of the causes of the various problems that accompany the transportation of people and materials, which is very important from the point of view of the protection of national security in the country. Some of the publications are also dedicated to the safety of transport and in particular the transport infrastructure and the accompanying problems, from the point of view of national security, as an important part of the functioning of the economy.

The presented scientific works are the personal work of the candidate. In this sense, they meet the requirements for participation in a competition, for obtaining the academic position of "associate professor".

Having a statement of contributions that correctly reflects scientific and scientific-applied achievements and their application, in academic work and in managerial activity, further facilitates peer review. As a rule, their implementation in legislation and practice will contribute to increasing the efficiency of the activities of the competent authorities, which will be a recognition of its efforts.

## III. ASSESSMENT OF THE SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE PAPERS PROPOSED FOR REVIEW

1. In the monograph presented by Dr. Mashlan, as the main habilitation work, "Risk management options on the economic security of economic

entities", is dedicated to the main problems accompanying the economic security of economic entities, as part of their overall security, as the author himself characterized them. It has been pointed out that the overall state of the security environment also affects the activity of business entities. In this regard, it is emphasized that this component is influenced by both external and internal factors.

Special attention is paid to the external environment, as the main factor influencing the security environment of these entities.

It is emphasized that the external environment is currently characterized by instability. The most frequently used concepts characterizing this instability are war, energy crisis, high rate of inflation with adverse consequences. This applies both to economic entities (disruption of production at high energy consumption) and to the general living standard of the population. Attention has been paid to the fact that the external environment creates an increasing number of risks that can adversely affect the results of the activity, which necessitates paying more attention to risk management.

Another important point of the monographic study is that it describes and compares not only the methods for guaranteeing the payment of claims, but also those for more effectively punishing existing debtors. Moreover, proposals for eliminating other risks affecting overall economic security are also considered. It is clearly stated that it is easier to plan and take the necessary measures during a boom than during a predicted recession. This is because it is then easier to assess the impact of decisions. What has been said also applies to forecasting sales, the amount of necessary stocks and the capacity to satisfy them. A key role in the research is the conclusion that incorrect decisions can lead to the insolvency of the business entity. In other words, to a lack of available cash flows necessary to pay off obligations to suppliers, banks, employees and the state. In conclusion, it is emphasized that the neglect of any part of the overall security will ultimately be expressed in a reduction of the

economic security of the enterprise. This, in turn, could have an adverse effect on its competitiveness, profitability or financial flows.

Evidently, improving the state of the environment, in the context of protecting national security, is one of the most significant activities. Moreover, the consequences of this phenomenon, in increasing the efficiency in the work organization and its consequences, are also examined. Different policies and the organization of work are important in this direction, at every level, including globally.

The contributions in the monograph can be summarized as follows:

- first of all, we will note the examination of the main aspects related to the protection of the protection of economic security, as part of national security, in the context of economic entities. The emergence and development of this issue, considered as a problem, may at a certain moment turn out to be serious from the point of view of the security of the citizens;
- it is important to note that an attempt was made to analyze the influence of various internal and external factors on the activity of the business entity in the context of national security. I cannot guarantee the primacy of this analysis in the specialized literature, but we can categorically note that its presence makes a very good impression;
- as essential, we can define the further development of the productions dedicated to the effect of the external security environment and its impact on the activity of the specialized institutions. This has a significant impact on the protection of national security.
- Analyzed issues broken down through methods of guaranteeing payments for receivables. The same applies to methods of more effectively punishing existing debtors.

All this gives the appearance of the monographic study, as a very significant scientific and also practical-applied work on a problem of importance

to both scientific workers and practical employees of the sector. Moreover, this topic is relevant not only for the national security protection system, but also for everyone related to this matter. In this sense, the monograph proposed for review is a scientific work in accordance with the existing standards and requirements.

2. In the article dedicated to the possibilities of risk management, affecting the economic security of business entities "Selection and application of appropriate analytical methods necessary for the assessment of risks reducing the security of the protected system", the problems related to the system of economic security are considered in the company and its relationship with national security, as part of the security in the relevant environment, which is also evident from its title. In particular, it is a matter of differentiated examination of the problems on the subject. Based on the analysis, the essence and importance of each of the types of risk analysis methods are highlighted. Important for the work is the outline of the possibilities for their development. In this sense, the article proposed for review is a scientific work in accordance with the existing standards and requirements. Attention has been paid to the fact that qualitative methods are mainly used.

Emphasis is placed both on the fact that quantitative methods are more accurate, but also more demanding in terms of input information and time. On this basis, it was noted that the choice of an appropriate analytical method is a basic prerequisite for knowing the risks and their assessment. It is emphasized that the values of individual risks obtained in this way are the basis for determining the measures that are necessary for their minimization, i.e. to correct them to an acceptable level. In this regard, a number of summaries and proposals for changing the perception have been made, which will help to increase the effectiveness of the activity on the problems under consideration.

A special place in the development is devoted to the fact that the design measures are always based on the value of the individual components used to calculate the risk number. This also applies to the value of the asset to be protected, which will indirectly improve the state of security. In this case, appropriately selected analytical methods are important, which are one of the main prerequisites for the consistent application of the principles of risk management, which we can define as a continuous process aimed at increasing the overall security of the studied system.

3. Economic security, is a topic for consideration in other publications of Mr. Mashlan. Such an example is the article where the candidate boldly addresses the problems of the economy as an indispensable basis for economic security, which in turn is an element of national security. Although in a more fragmentary version, it is emphasized on some moments of importance for national security in the field of economy and economic security. Special attention was paid to the fact that ensuring an adequate level of economic growth is a basic prerequisite for the functioning and development of society, as an element of the phenomenon of national security, not only theoretically, but above all also of a practical nature. In this way, it is indirectly suggested to the specialized bodies for the use of effective, if possible, preemptive actions.

A distinctive feature of the article is the emphasis on the need to create conditions for economic growth that allow the necessary efficiency of the economic system. Still in this connection, the author underlines that within risk management it is always necessary to take into account factors that can negatively affect the operation and efficiency of the system when these conditions are created. It is especially emphasized that disasters, which can have different causes and impacts on the studied system, are also such factors. It is emphasized that the study of the causes and consequences of disasters on the

economies of individual countries is very important for maintaining a functioning economy, the quality of life of the population, but also security.

In addition, this article deals with the definition of basic concepts and interrelationships between economics, respectively disaster economics, economic security and security as such.

4. The article "Transport safety and its importance for ensuring the needs of logistics activities" is dedicated to the role of logistics, with a view to ensuring the efficient movement of materials and people in the economy, public and private sectors in the context of national security. The topicality of the topic and, in this regard, its conditioning by various circumstances are emphasized.

The work is an attempt to present the main problems facing logistics activities related to planning, purchasing materials, their delivery, storage, production planning, packaging and subsequent shipment of products to the customer. The nature of scientific development is complemented by the proposed changes, considering the impact that transport has, as one of the main prerequisites for the functioning of any system.

Attention has been drawn to the fact that at the current level of globalization, the transport distances between suppliers of raw materials, the place of production of semi-finished or finished products and the place of their consumption are constantly increasing. A basic prerequisite for meeting the needs of individual participants in this chain is an existing and functioning transport system. It is necessary to note that the increase in the volume of transported materials and the lengthening of the distances are a prerequisite for an increase in security risks that can negatively affect these shipments. Highlighting the importance of the publication, the author draws attention to the fact that the number of entities involved in transport is increasing, individual countries have different levels of transport routes or political stability. Therefore, transport is an increasingly open system and more attention should be

paid to its safety. It is specifically emphasized that the task of security risk management is to anticipate possible threats, minimize losses in the event of a breach in the system and quickly return it to operation. In the article, the author suggests options for minimizing the threats that may affect existing modes of transport. In this regard, a number of proposals have been launched to modernize the existing organization of work, in the context of the protection of national security.

5. The publication dedicated to whether the COVID-19 pandemic changed university education or simply revealed the unprepared also has the character of an article, as its title suggests.

As can be seen from the topic, the purpose of the article is to examine the state of university education after this pandemic. In particular, it is a matter of focusing on the risk of identification and the characteristics and problems arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Of course, all this in the context of university education in the conditions of the Slovak Republic.

It is emphasized that the origin and development of this disease will be studied later in a historical aspect. On this basis, however, it has been clarified that the present needs solutions, and immediate ones, that will manage to ensure the elimination of the problems. Special attention is paid to the fact that IT technologies can be the solution to help overcome the problems in education, and not only in universities. Of course in combination with human presence.

It is emphasized that the main driver in this activity should be the teacher, who should take on the main duties and, accordingly, bear the great responsibility. The importance and role of other institutions is also noted. In other words, along with the role of modern technologies, that of man is emphasized as a factor in the level of security. This is important both for the development of education and for the level of security protection.



Still in connection with the topic of the publication, it was noted that the main role for taking adequate actions, with a view to overcoming the existing problems, is the availability of opportunities for the development of this very important component, in the context of the development of human civilization, is the combination of technology -person.

Apart from being a part of our modern times and a necessity in almost every activity, this specificity helps in real-time reactions. This, in turn, allows for a timely response. In addition to having a role in the availability of the necessary information, this approach also allows making the most correct decisions, with a view to improving the level of education and preventing a collapse in its level from the point of view of the current stage.

It should be especially emphasized that some conclusions were made in the work, which can be defined as contributions.

Specific measures to increase the efficiency in the work of the specialized bodies are also proposed, with specific commitments on the issues under consideration.

The rest of the publications are equal or smaller in volume, but not in importance. In general, with his publications, the author shows us his affinity to pressing problems of our time, among which the problems of the economy and economic security stand out. It is noteworthy that the candidate offers well-grounded ones that are not overly theorized, but rather practically underpinned. In this sense, they can be useful for both executive staff and sector managers. Many of the views are applicable and can inform reflection and scientific approaches as part of the overall defense of national security.

#### IV. PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS OF THE CANDIDATE'S WORK

I have no personal impressions of Mr. Mashlan's work and qualities. I know him only from the published basis on which I prepare the review. His

teaching, scientific and managerial activity gives me the impression of a correct person, with clearly developed qualities, who is aware of the practical activity on the researched issues and develops his scientific views on this basis. This impression is complemented by the many practical recommendations found in the publications with which he aims to improve the organization of work.

## V. CONCLUSION

Dr. Martin Mashlan's overall work, as well as the scientific publications submitted for review, give me the reason to CONVINCEDLY recommend to the RESPECTED JURY to select and recommend him, with a view to occupying the academic position of "associate professor".

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Prepared the review:

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