OPINION

by Professor, DSc Georgi Velkov Kolev
Konstantin Preslavsky – University of Shumen
of dissertation work
from Nedko Petrov Petrov
Impact of global institutions for long-term forecasting on global integration processes
to acquire the educational and scientific degree "doctor"
in Area of higher education: 3. Social, economic and legal sciences
Professional field: 3.4. Social activities
Doctoral program: Organization and management outside the sphere of material
production (Social activities)
Supervisor: Professor DSc Sonya Borisova Ilieva

Nedko Petrov Petrov was born in 1993. In 2016 he acquired a bachelor's degree, and in 2018 he completed a master's degree in "Regulation and control in the system of social activities."

He is enrolled in full-time PhD in 2018, with effect from 05.04.2021, the early been charged with right of defense.

At the heart of Nedko Petrov's expanded doctoral dissertation is the problem of long-term forecasting.

Long-term forecasting, associated with the growing interest in social knowledge, encourages the development of newer technologies for social development. At present, a large volume of scientific theories and related practices have been accumulated in the world, which reveal both the content of the social and the predictions related to it. But their extrapolation into the future, reflecting objective social processes and their connections, requires a complex, integrated interaction between the social sciences and the natural sciences, as well as scientific information from all fields of social science.

The dissertation consists of Introduction, Concept, three chapters, conclusion and appendices. Its contents boil in the direction of the following lines:
CHAPTER ONE "DEVELOPING IDEAS AND PRACTICES FOR LONG-TERM FORECASTING" discusses ideas about the future and its prediction from Antiquity to the Modern Age; Awareness of the present and uncertainty about the future in Primitive (prehistoric) society and ideas about possible future worlds in antiquity, focusing on the Oracle tradition and utopian concepts of the future. It also focuses on science fiction - an art form for long-term forecasting of the future of mankind. The process of creating futurology as a science for the future, a symbol of long-term forecasting, is shown. Established representatives of long-term forecasting and their concepts for the future are presented. In this chapter the doctoral student also develops basic concepts and theoretical positions defining long-term forecasting. The methods of long-term forecasting are analyzed in detail.

CHAPTER TWO "GLOBAL INSTITUTIONS FOR LONG-TERM FORECASTING AND THEIR REPORTS" presents the diversity of forecasting institutions on a global scale,

focusing on the two most important global forecasting institutions - the R&D Corridor. Further, the doctoral student develops his theses around these two institutions.

He presents RAND Corporation as a think tank. He publishes a Historical Reference for him, points out her scientific achievements and points out his reports.

PhD student Nedko Petrov presents the Club of Rome in the same, similar way, pointing out that he is the flagship of long-term forecasting. He also presents a historical reference, points out his scientific achievements and presents his reports.

IN CHAPTER THREE "GLOBAL INTEGRATION ABOUT THE LONG-TERM FORECASTS OF THE LEADING FUTUROLOGICAL INSTITUTIONS. EMPIRICAL RESEARCH "Nedko Petrov defines the term" integration ", analyzing in detail the global integration around the long-term forecasts of the leading futurological institutions:

1. Integration around long-term forecasts for the conquest of outer space by man (RAND Corporation).
2. Integration around the long-term forecast of the Earth's population (Club of Rome).
3. Integration around the long-term forecast for sustainable development (Club of Rome).

Next, the doctoral student shows an empirical study on long-term forecasting and integration around his ideas, consisting of analysis of documents and an electronic survey.

Through the dissertation presented for my opinion the following is achieved:

1. The aim of the research is to obtain knowledge about long-term forecasting in the form of verifiable explanations, as a result of summarizing and synthesizing the results related to it.
2. In the dissertation the cognitive activity is realized on two main levels of comprehension of the reality: empirically and theoretically, in order to reflect in depth the objective reality, connected with the evolution of the long-term forecasting.
3. Thanks to the empirical knowledge in the dissertation, a large enough amount of scientific evidence has been accumulated, thanks to which ideas and knowledge about long-term forecasting are formed sufficiently to serve as a basis for in-depth scientific reasoning.
4. Through the theoretical knowledge in the dissertation the deeper research is penetrated and the specific essential characteristics of the long-term forecasting are explained. Through this level of knowledge the contemplation of empiricism is overcome, the essence is explained, the knowledge about it is systematized and utilized. This leads to a theoretical understanding of long-term forecasting as a scientific method.
5. The main feature of long-term forecasting as a scientific method is that it is based on the collection of observable, empirical and measurable evidence, on the basis of which future trends are formulated.
6. The presented empirical evidence for its evolution shows that in addition to the rich human practice, it is also used in various groups of sciences.
7. But it should be deeply emphasized that in the genesis of long-term forecasting are the formal sciences - logic, mathematics, game theory and others.
8. In the dissertation the goal of the scientific research has been reached, as a scientific contribution has been created in the direction of proving the working hypothesis and summarizing new and confirming facts for the efficiency of the long-term forecasting.
9. It is clear from the content of the dissertation that long-term forecasting is related to:
- design of social dynamics and social change;
- forecasting of social change - change of the whole system or elements of the society;
- social time - makes the connection between present and future;

- the social effect of human activity both in the present and in the future;
- modeling of social processes for a long period of time;
- social design as a scientifically based modeling of social objects;
- the study of current and future social processes;
- has a direct bearing on social governance;
- sociological experiments - allows to select, establish or predict the possibilities of various forms of social activity;
- the enrichment of the sociological metacognition, supporting the development of its theoretical and empirical levels.

I accept the proposed scientific and applied scientific contributions.

I have no questions or critical remarks about the doctoral student.

Conclusion:
In view of the above:
1. I give a positive assessment of the dissertation.
2. I propose to the esteemed scientific jury to award the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" to Nedko Petrov Petrov.

Date: 27.05.2021 г.

Professor. DSc Gerogi Velkov Kolev