

STANDPOINT

By: Assoc. prof. Sasha Vladimirova Todorova, Ph.D.

Regarding: Awarding of the educational and scientific degree "doctor" in professional direction 3.4. Social activities, doctoral program "Organization and management outside the sphere of material production (Social activities)"

Topic: Socio-ecological problems of global society

Author: Vladimir Georgiev Vladimirov-Zhytenski

I. Information about the applicant

Vladimir Georgiev Vladimirov-Zhytenski was born in 1966 in Sofia. He graduated from the "Ilia Petrov" National School of Fine Arts, Sofia in 1985. In the period 1989-1995, he studied "Fine Art and Wall Paintings" at the National Academy of Arts, where he also received a master's degree. At the Faculty of Education of the Konstantin Preslavsky – University of Shumen studied Social Activities (2007-2010) and obtained a master's degree. In 2021-2022 he was enrolled as a doctoral student in an independent form of study in the Department of Social Work (Order RD-10-383/27.07.2021), and with Order RD-380/28.07.2022 he discharged early with right of defence.

He combines his scientific interests with a teaching activity in "Art activities" in 175 OU "Vasil Levski", Sofia, but also with entrepreneurial activity as Chairman of the Management Board of GP Group AD from 1999 to the present. In this activity, he implements business programs for students in the field of construction.

II. General characteristics of the presented dissertation work

The dissertation is 251 pages long. It is structured in three chapters, an introduction and conclusion and two appendices. The bibliography includes 199 sources, of which 16 are normative documents, 107 in Bulgarian, 66 in Russian and 10 in Latin.

The adopted structure is characterized by a sequence that reveals the logic of the analysis.

The problems related to socio-ecological risks with the global society are of permanent *relevance*. They are in the center of attention of both the representatives of the academic community and the representatives of the authorities and entrepreneurs. Nevertheless, the obtained results of the demonstrated activity are not satisfactory, on the contrary, they are considered insufficient.

Therefore, researchers in the field of socio-ecological risks continue to remind of the impending dangers if timely and adequate measures are not taken. This in turn requires, as the doctoral student notes, "environmental education and upbringing, environmental competence of the whole society, solved problems of sustainable development".

The aim of the dissertation research is "on the basis of a systematic analysis of globalization processes, security factors and problems related to anthropogenic pollution and the global environmental crisis, to study the environmental literacy of the young generation in higher schools and to create a conceptual theoretical model for solving environmental problems in accordance with the conditions of the circumstances of the country and the globalizing world".

The *tasks* resulting from this aim are aimed at a further analysis of globalization, the identification of its problems and its key features, the determination of the place, role and tasks of the various institutions to guarantee socio-ecological security, the study of the socio-ecological literacy of students and the development of models for solving socio-ecological problems in our country.

The subject and object of the study are also precisely and clearly formulated.

The formulated *hypothesis* is broken through the specifics of the new conditions in which the socio-ecological problems of the global society are formed.

No wording of the *doctoral thesis* is given.

The applied research methodology includes the application of three methods for the collection of information: a survey, the method of document research and personal observation. In my opinion, the cognitive possibilities of these methods are not fully used. The questionnaire lacks questions related to the social and demographic characteristics of the surveyed students. For this reason, only a one-dimensional distribution of the collected information is presented.

Personal observation requires the development of a list of indicators that the researcher will observe and summary protocols of the study results. Such are not given in the appendix.

III. Evaluation of the obtained scientific and scientific-applied results

The content of the dissertation work and the performed analysis have two research fields: a.) revealing the socio-ecological problems of the global society with their inherent characteristics and directions of impact and b.) developing a model for their solution.

The theoretical analysis is aimed at the social dimensions of globalization related to human values and the increase of people's well-being, their freedom and security as a motivator of the scientific and technological process, a factor for the development of knowledge, mobility, competitiveness and innovation.

A methodology for the development of a concept for solving socio-ecological problems in Bulgaria is presented. Its content includes: a.) a program to increase the socio-ecological literacy of the population; b.) problems to solve; c.) purposes; d.) priorities; e.) meaning. Special emphasis is placed on the need for interaction and mutual responsibility between institutions and the role of the academic community. The analysis is broken through the role of the quality of training and education of students in achieving the required modern socio-ecological literacy.

IV. Evaluation of scientific and scientific-applied contributions

The achieved quality of the analysis and the wide limits in which it is carried out give reason to highlight several scientific and scientific-applied contributions:

- New signs of socio-ecological problems in the new conditions of the development of the global society have been revealed;
- Establishing the connection and interaction between the dynamics of the transformation of socio-ecological problems into risks and the presence of a socio-ecological crisis;
- The identification of the problems of socio-ecological literacy among students and the recommendations made in solving them;
- The evidence of institutional connection, interaction, responsibility and control between them, related to the formation of socio-ecological education, literacy, security and values (Ministry of Education, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs);
- Launched ideas to the legislative bodies to modernize the legal framework related to the socio-ecological problems in our country and limiting their possibilities for turning them into risks.

V. Evaluation of the Dissertation's Publications

Three publications have been made on the subject of the dissertation, two of which are in English in the authoritative magazine SocioBrains in 2021 and 2022, and one in Bulgarian in the

collection "Scientific works of students and doctoral students from the Faculty of Education of SHU" in 2021.

VI. Evaluation of the abstract

The presented abstract of the dissertation corresponds to its content. The structure, volume and presentation of the abstract give the reader a complete idea of the path taken by the dissertation, the results obtained and their significance for the development of global society and its opportunities to solve socio-ecological problems in it.

VII. Notes and recommendations

I recommend the dissertation student to continue his research work in the field of socio-ecological problems of the global society, which will allow him to correct the omissions made in the dissertation analysis, namely:

- updating the research *methodology* - comprehensive use of the cognitive capacity of the sociological methods of surveys and personal observation and the research tools developed for them - respectively survey card and protocols;
- *the global society* should also be considered with its inherent negative qualities, known and proven by leading researchers on the problem;
- refinement of the *conceptual apparatus* used - factor and consequences, the definition of the concepts and the immanent features of the processes and phenomena they describe (eg the sample in empirical sociological studies);
- *conclusions* to each of the chapters of the dissertation are missing;
- disproportionate chapters of the dissertation (one has a volume of 141 pages, and another - 3 pages);
- lack of a *doctoral thesis* as a starting point for the direction of the research and analysis.

I recommend that in the future study of the socio-ecological literacy of the students of the "Bachelor's College" of the FE of the ShU Konstantin Preslavsky, comprehensive samples should be used and, on the basis of the information received, at the beginning and at the end of the semester, an assessment of the changes that have occurred should be given.

Conclusion

The dissertation student has made serious efforts to establish the scientific heritage related to the socio-ecological problems of the global society.

Considering the socio-ecological literacy of the students of the Faculty of Education as an important quality for the formation of the future generation is of extreme importance and importance both in relation to the scope of training and the quality of education. In this sense, this practice has every reason to be defined as a social innovation.

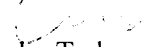
The dissertation student knows how to problematize and generalize and, on this basis, makes proposals for social development with the help of higher education and the connections and interaction between other institutions.

On this basis, I recommend to the esteemed Scientific Jury to accept the dissertation work of Vladimir Georgiev Vladimirov-Zhytenski "Social-ecological problems of the global society" as a completed scientific research and to award him the ESD "Doctor".

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София

Prepared the standpoint:


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