

ACADEMY OF NATIONAL AND INFORMATION SECURITY

STATEMENT

From: Prof. Dr. Eng. Evgeni Petrov Manev,
professor at Academy of National and Information Security, holding
the academic rank in Professional field 9.1 National Security.

Subject: Review the dissertation for awarding the scientific degree
"Doctor of Sciences" in the Professional field 9.1 "National Security".

Author of the dissertation: Dr. Teodora Kirilova Licheva.

Dissertation title: "Transformation of the management cycle in
intelligence and counter-intelligence through the integration of modern
technological solutions."

Basis for submitting this statement: participation in the Scientific
jury for the dissertation defense, pursuant to Order No. 404 of the Rector
of Varna Free University "Chernorizets Hrabar," dated July 15, 2026.

1. Information about the doctoral candidate

The author obtained the educational and scientific degree of
"Doctor" between 2022 and 2024 under the doctoral program "Security
Strategies and Policy" at the Department of National and International
Security, within the Professional field 9.1 National Security, at New
Bulgarian University.

2. General characteristics of the submitted dissertation

The dissertation submitted for review possesses the characteristics of
a comprehensive and complete scientific study. It spans 425 pages and is
structured into an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, a section on
contributions, and a bibliography. Each chapter concludes with summary
and findings. The main text contains 94 tables and 34 figures.

A total of 514 sources were used, comprising: international and supranational instruments -4; Bulgarian legislation and strategies - 9; foreign legal acts and standards - 17; literature in Cyrillic - 24; literature in Latin script - 61; literature in Chinese - 5; and internet sources -394.

The relevance of the research on the topic of the dissertation is justified by the need for the transformation of the recursive system for national security to the new information and technological environment (Industry 4.0 - 6.0), including its intelligence and counterintelligence recursive system elements. The extremely rapid development of technologies in the information environment in combination with artificial intelligence, big data bases, cloud systems, blockchain, etc. technologies have a significant impact on the organization of the constant struggle for the development of information power and achieving superiority over competitors in the global information domain.

The significance of the topic is determined by the need to develop theoretical and applied knowledge for the transformation of both the management, the intelligence and counterintelligence cycles, predetermined by the possibilities of the galloping development of digital technologies in the national recursive security system.

The author has set himself the goal of conceptualizing a model for managing security systems in a theoretical and practical-applied plan in the context of the systems approach. In a methodological and logical sequence, certain theoretical foundations of the management of the social organization have been analyzed in the context of the multidisciplinary approach. On this basis, the concept and research theses are presented. A conceptual model for security management in corporate organizations has been generated.

The form and content of the scientific research corresponds to the generally accepted requirements for a scientific dissertation. The

introduction reflects the required attributes, and the content of the chapters is presented in methodological sequence. The methodologies, methods and research tools used have contributed to the fulfillment of the research tasks set.

3. Evaluation of the obtained scientific and applied scientific results

The obtained scientific and applied scientific achievements of the author are the result of the organization of the research process on the dissertation topic, namely the appropriate goal setting, determination of the object, subject, methodology, methods, goals and tasks, which together with the performed analyses have led to the generation of useful knowledge, recommendations and contributions.

4. Assessment of scientific and applied scientific contributions

The scientific and applied scientific contributions indicated by the author in the dissertation work and the abstract arise from the results achieved in the conducted research. They represent contributions to knowledge for increasing the results in the work of basic systemic elements of the recursive security system of the state. I accept the scientific and applied scientific contributions summarized by the author.

The results obtained in the study may be useful for those working in the field of security, members of the state legislative body, state management officials, the scientific community, practitioners, researchers, students and all those interested in the topic.

5. Evaluation of the publications on the dissertation

The author's publications are related to the topic of the dissertation work and enable the scientific community to become familiar with his achievements.

6. Evaluation of the abstract

The abstract accurately and truthfully reflects the author's achievements in the dissertation work and fulfills its purpose.

7. Critical notes, recommendations and questions

I have no significant notes on the dissertation submitted for review that would in any way affect the author's achievements. I recommend author to publish a monographic work based on the dissertation research, in which to present definitions of the main terms used.

Conclusion

I give an overall positive assessment of the dissertation proposed for review, I vote positively and I invite the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury to vote positively for awarding the scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences", in the professional field "9.1 National Security" to **Dr. Teodora Kirilova Licheva**.

Signature:

10.08.2026, Sofia