

## OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Emil Assenov Atanasov, external member of the jury, UNWE, scientific specialty -  
Accounting, control and analysis of economic activity (control)

of dissertation for awarding the scientific degree "Doctor" in the field of higher education 3.  
Social, economic and legal sciences, professional field 3.8. Economics

**Author:** Maria Filipovska-Dimitrova

**Topic:** "Risk management of financial assets"

### **1. General description of the submitted materials**

By order № 110 of June 28, 2021 of the Rector of the Higher School of Insurance and Finance Assoc. Prof. Dr. Grigorii Vazov I was appointed a member of the scientific jury to provide a procedure for the defense of a dissertation on " Risk management of financial assets" for acquiring the scientific degree " Doctor of Sciences " in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, Professional field 3.8. Economics. The author of the dissertation is Maria Filipovska-Dimitrova, candidate at the Department of Finance  
The materials submitted by Maria Filipovska-Dimitrova include documents on presented description:

- CV
- dissertation
- abstract of doctoral dissertation
- reference for fulfillment of the national minimum requirements
- reference for the scientific contributions

### **2. Brief biographical data about the candidate**

Maria Filipovska-Dimitrova was born on April 29, 1981.

In 2004 he obtained a bachelor's degree in International Relations at the University of National and World Economy-Sofia. In 2006 she obtained a master's degree in this specialty at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski ", Sofia. In 2010 she obtained a second master's degree in Finance at UNWE-Sofia

Since 2009 she has been working in the company "Fisconsulting" Ltd.-Sofia

### **3. Characteristics of the dissertation**

The dissertation "Risk Management in Financial Assets" consists of 192 pages. The literature used covers a total of 160 sources in Cyrillic, Latin and Internet sites.

The study is structured in four chapters. The first chapter is devoted to the general principles of financial risk management. The focus of the second is the analysis of the functions and

sources of financial assets. The object of the third chapter is the analysis of the functions and instruments of the financial markets. The fourth chapter discusses some current problems in the formation of financial assets. In conclusion, are presented the main conclusions of the dissertation.

#### **4. Structure and content of the dissertation**

##### **First chapter . General principles of financial risk management**

The theoretical and applied aspects of the risk are analyzed here. As a result of the analysis, the risk is defined as an activity related to overcoming uncertainty in a situation of inevitable choice, in the process of which it is possible to quantitatively and qualitatively assess the probability of achieving a presumed result. , failure and deviation from goals.

The object of analysis is also the system and methods of financial risk management.

According to the author, risk management is associated with a special type of management activity aimed at reducing the impact of risk on results. The significance of management decisions faced by managers is determined, above all, by the acceptable level of risk. Each of these decisions is characterized by its own risk preferences. The set of these decisions and the actions related to their implementation form the risk management system.

A significant place in the analysis of this part is focused on the study of methodological aspects in assessing financial risks. The emphasis here is on the problem of risk classification, which in turn is determined by their diversity. According to the author, the most important for the financial risks and having the greatest practical significance is their classification as justified (legitimate) and unjustified (illegal) risks. In order to differentiate between them, it is necessary to take into account, first of all, the fact that the boundary between them in the different types of financial activity and the different sectors of the economy is different.

##### **Chapter Two. Analysis of the functions and sources of financial assets**

The analysis of this part points out that with the development of public relations, monetary instruments become more diverse, changing the form and nature of their movement. There are also specific financial relationships and institutions operating with a variety of financial instruments in the form of money, national and foreign currency and securities.

Given the nature of monetary relations, their different functional purpose can be found that some of them mediate in the change of the form of value, and others - in the movement of value. On this basis, they are distinguished as cash and financial assets.

According to the author of financial assets, as an objective economic category, there are two main functions - distribution-stimulating and control.

The distribution-stimulating function derives from the nature of the financial assets and consists in the fact that in the functioning of the financial relations there is a direct movement of values, ensuring the realization of the objective laws of income distribution and at the same time an effective stimulating effect on the activity of the various financial entities.

The control function of finance, in turn, is closely related to the distribution-stimulating one. It is determined by the objective nature of financial relations and at the same time by their subjective organization by the state.

### **Chapter three. Analysis of the functions and instruments of the financial markets**

The study in this part states that the functioning of financial assets is realized with the help of markets, institutions, instruments. Proposals for investment and financing, search and pooling of donors and recipients are concentrated on the markets. The search for and unification of financial donors and recipients is done with the help of financial institutions operating professionally in the financial markets.

The activities of the majority of financial entities are closely related to the variety of financial markets, each of which is an organized or informal system for trading in financial assets and instruments. In these markets, the main role is played by financial institutions, directing the flow of financial assets from owners to recipients. In this regard, several main types of financial markets can be distinguished: foreign exchange market, money market, gold market, stock market.

The study also states that with the development of the capital market, new types of financial assets, liabilities and operations with them appear (forward contracts, futures, options, swaps, etc.). In the field of finance, a new direction is being formed, defined as financial engineering. Within the framework of financial engineering, new instruments are developed or with the help of the existing instruments such combinations are constructed, which allow with the help of financial methods to solve problems with financing, to increase liquidity, to receive additional income, to reduce risk and so called

### **Chapter four. Problems in the formation of financial assets**

This part analyzes the credit system, which is defined as a set of banks and other credit and financial institutions that mobilize free monetary resources and income and lend them.

According to the author, the direct lending of entrepreneurial activity by owners of free monetary resources against interest faces a number of contradictions:

- the amount of monetary resources offered as capital against interest may not correspond to the amount of demand for monetary capital;
- the time of the release of the money capital for their owners very often does not coincide with the time when the borrowers need it;
- An obstacle to the provision of cash capital directly by its owners may be their lack of awareness of the creditworthiness of the borrower.

According to the author, bank credit intermediation overcomes these contradictions in direct lending, as banks mobilize deposits of different amounts and with different maturities and can therefore provide loans to existing entrepreneurs in the required amounts and for the required terms.

## **5. Contributions and significance of the development for science and practice**

The author believes that the scientific novelty of the results obtained from the analysis of the dissertation topic allow the formulation of the following scientific and scientific-applied contribution aspects:

1. In general, an analysis of a large volume of scientific and theoretical sources of famous authors, including journalistic information, on the dialectical relationship between risk and return on assets, taking into account their inherent contradictions, unity and trends for development and manifestation.
2. The different approaches in determining the functional nature of risk management in assets are analyzed and summarized, taking into account the current views of the business.
3. A methodology for the organization of the preparation and evaluation of the quality of the management decisions and their optimization in the conditions of risk for the financial asset is proposed.
4. The need to apply the so-called GAP analysis as the most appropriate tool for analyzing the potential liquidity risks of the asset is demonstrated. For proponents of a conservative liquidity management policy, it is proposed to compile a report that determines the optimal map for the distribution of liquidity of assets with specific ratios that will redistribute liabilities into assets and help build an optimal, in terms of each financial process, a card for its liquidity.
5. A methodology for determining the internal credit risk of a financial issuer of debt assets is proposed using a detailed assessment of the amount of expected losses using the parametric model VaR, applying the so-called volatility property of the parameter over time in the forecast calculations of expected losses. and to make calculations for the expected return of the portfolio of assets on the basis of the methodology of their weighted average return.
6. A variant of a procedure for obtaining information on the quality of financial risk management is proposed, through a system of questions for their assessment, as a result of these assessments to derive an aggregate indicator for the individual components.

In my opinion, the contributions presented are real and can be accepted. They show a high degree of knowledge of the subject matter by the dissertation and are a logical consequence of the in-depth study of the problems of risk management of financial assets.

In this part, significant attention is paid to the role of central banks in regulating and controlling the activities of commercial banks and maintaining the stability of the banking system.

## **6. Evaluation of the publications on the dissertation**

The author presents three publications in the competition. Two of them have been published in collections of scientific articles and the third is published in a scientific journal. Their topic corresponds to the topic of the dissertation.

## **7. Assessment for fulfillment of the minimum national requirements**

The author fully covers the minimum quantitative requirements specified in the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB) and the Regulations for its application.

## **8. Abstract**

The presented abstract consists of 46 pages. It correctly reflects the content and problems in the dissertation, there is compliance with the results obtained in it.

## **9. Critical remarks and recommendations**

1. In my opinion, it would be more appropriate for the author's contributions to be distinguished as contributions of a scientific nature and contributions of an applied nature.
2. In the dissertation work on the ground narrative descriptions on certain topics prevail rather than an analysis of related theoretical aspects and problems.

## **CONCLUSION**

The dissertation contains scientific results that represent an original contribution and meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and its Regulations. The presented materials and dissertation results also correspond to the specific requirements of the Regulations for admission and training of doctoral students at the Higher School of Insurance and Finance.

The dissertation shows that the candidate Maria Filipovska - Dimitrova has in-depth theoretical knowledge and professional skills in the field of economics and finance, convincingly demonstrating qualities for independent research.

Having in mind the above, I give my positive assessment of the research presented by the above reviewed dissertation, abstract, results and contributions and I propose to the esteemed scientific jury to award the degree of "Doctor of Economics" to Maria Filipovska-Dimitrova in field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, Professional field 3.8. Economics.

15.08.2021 г.

Reviewer: .....  
(prof. Emil Assenov, Ph.D.)