

## REVIEWS

of dissertation work

Sustainable Development of the City of Pristina, Republic of Kosovo and Revitalization of the Living Environment. NBU 2019

The author of the architect. Armend Fazliu

For obtaining a doctorate degree at NBU-Sofia

From Prof. Dr. Arch. Konstantin Boyadzhiev - Professor Emeritus of NBU

The dissertation is presented in 204 pages, 62 illustrations and many other author schemes, as well as numerous tables.

The research was conducted according to the known methodological scheme with formulation of the purpose of the dissertation, the object and subject of the dissertation, as well as the methodological approaches, the applicability of the work and the possibilities for its application. These steps, representing the educational part of the doctoral degree, continue in the part of the analysis of the development of the Republic of Kosovo and the city of Pristina to this day, showing the doctoral student's ability to cope with the requirements and skills of analyzing the collected material.

Undoubtedly, with regard to the relevance of the topic under discussion, it is evident after the establishment of the Republic of Kosovo and the role of the city of Pristina. On the one hand, there are current guidelines and activities that have taken place within the former Yugoslavia, and on the other, it is imperative to point out new circumstances, problems and directions arising from the changes. From this point of view, the historical digression produced by the author is appropriate and very useful.

Module 2 - situational analysis of the socio - economic and spatial development of Pristina, includes the historical and political development of Kosovo and the city, is geographically different. characteristics, economic development, cultural development and heritage. On the basis of demographic development, modern plans for the development of the city of Pristina to the General Plan have been shown as a very important factor. This is extremely useful material that has also given the author the opportunity to complete strategies and guidelines for Pristina's development.

In further modules, the study focuses on the housing environment in all aspects: housing development, servicing, landscaping, outlining, and the impact of the housing market.

From Module 4, the conceptual part of the study, expressed in 3 possible scenarios, begins

- small to zero economic growth
- moderate and realistic socio-economic growth and an opportunity to optimize urban and regional development
- high sustainable development of economy, city and region.

- the spatial development of the City of Pristina under the 2013 Development Plan
- is based on the following seven strategies.
- Polycentric development of the city;
- Qualitative development of the natural environment and expression of culture in its identity;
- Full, multifunctional development of the city;
- Qualitative development of the natural environment and expression of culture in its identity;
- Full, multifunctional development of the city;
- A city where all citizens are satisfied with their needs;
- Improving the quality of life in the adjacent municipal rural territories;
- Research activity towards new global challenges: building innovative technology parks and research incubation centers; full interaction of manufacturing enterprises and universities; strengthening and enhancing international relations and relationships; enhancing the role and importance of telecommunications in the daily life and future development of the city, as well as their renewal and improvement.

All three options considered have been examined in detail, and it is here that the part of the dissertation that justifies and separates the scientific from the educational in the doctoral system is manifested. This is also where the author's schemes emerge regarding the revitalization of housing, the new problems of regulation and land use, especially in the third variant of intensive development.

The formulation of urban development strategies and priorities begins. They cover innovative economics, agrarian development, the creation of research and technology parks, the valorisation of cultural and historical heritage. To the last topic are prepared methodological guidelines for the activities related to tourism, presented in several points, called by the author work modules

The aforementioned part of the dissertation contains to a great extent the author's views and variations with respect to already existing documents related to the PMO Prishtina from 2013. This approach is continued in Module 5 with concretization.

They are focused on high quality revitalization and sustainable development of the residential environment in Pristina and each component: housing complexes and neighborhoods with their building structures and self-contained buildings; inter-block spaces; supply and power engineering networks; parking lots and garages; the objects of the educational, health, social, communal and primary commercial infrastructure: parks, inner-quarter gardens, strip and buffer landscaping with their furnishings: the grounds for active and passive sports recreation and entertainment: sound insulation such as landscaping and socks, wooden barriers.

National institutions are to be built in Pristina, such as the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Opera Art Gallery. In addition, an Olympic stadium and a sports hall. As the youngest nation in Europe, other processes are currently expected.

The strategic plan for the development of Pristina 2014-2020 and the territorial development plan of Kosovo 2010-2020 are currently expiring. We can expect the dissertation to be useful in the planning of Pristina from now on.

**The dissertation work of Arch. Fazliu is extensive, exceeds the size and meaning of the usual format, and is written competently and with ambition.**

The reviewer fully understands the author's contributions as formulated, as well as his suggestions for the applicability of the results. In general, they consist of:

- Actual choice of the topic, structural linking of the revitalization of the residential environment with the sustainable development of the city and its systems. Derived scientific-theoretical formulation and generalized supplemented terminological concepts with research tools.
- The collected, systematized and summarized sources, the basis of situational analysis of the socio-economic and spatial-temporal development of the city of Pristina. Critically assessed condition of the city with its problems and derived strategic directions for its sustainable development.
- Conducted a thorough traditional, comparatively returnable and process-adaptive analysis with a diagnosis of the state of the residential environment in Pristina.
- Derived architectural and urban planning problems of building structures and inter-building spaces of residential complexes and neighborhoods.
- Introduced typology of neighborhood and building structures, an inter-building space with the most sought after and attractive apartments for the current housing market.
- Developed basic guidelines for the sustainable development of Pristina with an emphasis on: alternative scenarios for sustainable regional and urban development; macro-spatial and practical-applied model of development; city-wide urban priorities and major strategies in socio-economic development and improvement of cultural identity; valorisation of cultural, historical and natural heritage for tourism purposes; concrete proposals for the polycentric development of the city to adjacent lanes and zones; supplementing public transport with tram and trolleybus; construction of underground parking lots; saturation of residential areas with facilities for services and services; construction of residential substations for hot water heating; construction of new public buildings, etc.
- Guidelines developed and synthesized in the revitalization of the residential environment in Pristina: priorities in the revitalization of residential complexes and neighborhoods; energy policy and energy efficiency; Housing policy.

The abstract fully reflects the content of the doctorate.

**In conclusion, I must emphasize that the dissertation of Arch. Fazliu, prepared at the NBU's Architecture Department, is an important success in preparing foreign doctoral students, which confirms the department's ability to pursue such an activity and outlines an expanding perspective in this regard. With regard to the preparation of doctoral students in general, it broadens the topics in the direction of housing policy, urban housing environment, to elements of the problems in Kosovo, which is in sync with some aspects of development in Bulgaria and outlines the possibility for further cooperation.**

**As a result of the foregoing, I propose that the Honorable Scientific Jury award the Doctoral Degree for Arch. Armend Fazliu.**

28.12.2019  
Sofia.

reviewer:  
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