STATEMENT

by Prof. Ph.D. Roumen Trifonov, member of the Scientific Jury pursuant order No 48 of 24.02.2022 of the Director of IICT-BAS on the dissertation thesisfor the acquisition **of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" 5.3. Communication and Computer Technology** on "**Method and models for the development of information security systems in organizations**"

author **by Ivan Kostadinov Gaidarski**

Supervisor: Assoc.Prof. Ph.D. Roumen Andreev

1. Relevance of the problem

One of the main challenges in modern society is reliable protection of information from both external and internal attacks (current and former employees, partners, etc.). Threats depend heavily on vulnerabilities that can be exploited by the attacker. The creation of a method and models for developing information security systems to protect sensitive information from internal threats from internal threats - out is extremely relevant.

2. General characteristics of the dissertation thesis

The dissertation thesis of the PhD student fulfills the requirements art. 27 (2) of the PPZRASRB. It includes 142 pages (excluding content and lists), 48 figures, 13 tables and 2 applications. It is structured in an introduction, four chapters and a conclusion. The bibliography contains 139 sources in Bulgarian and English, including publications of the PhD student.

The dissertation abstract consists of 54 pages. I believe that it faithfully covers the content of the dissertation thesis.

3. **Characteristic and evaluation of contributions to the dissertation thesis**

In order to achieve the purpose of the dissertation thesis – creating a method and models of a system for the protection of sensitive - data by using a SPI-type platform suitable for use in different organizations, such as critical infrastructure sites, enterprises dealing with industrial secrets, commercial or scientific research organizations have formulated a total of 6 tasks - definition and classification of approaches for the management of information security and areas of application; Analysis of the field "Information Security" as part of the problematic area of information security system; Description of the problematic area of information security systems in organizations through conceptual modeling; Analysis and application of object-oriented approach in creating a design model of an information security system based on a created conceptual model; Defining an approach to transform the design model of the C.I.A. into a implementation model; Simulation of the SS and analysis of the test data generated.

As a result of the implementation of these tasks, 7 scientific and applied contributions are formulated in the dissertation work.

I believe that the PhD student has successfully dealt with the goals and tasks set in the dissertation thesis and I **appreciate the results** obtained positively.

4. **Publications on the subject of the dissertation thesis**

The publications concerning the dissertation thesis are 5 and are published in proceedings of three international conferences, one publication is in journals with SJR, indexed in Scopus and one in an international academic scientific edition. Four of the publications are co-authored.

I believe that all publications are on the subject of the dissertation thesis.

A positive impression is also made by the noted 4 citations of publications of the PhD student and his participation in 3 research projects.

5. Opinions, recommendations and observations

PhD student Ivan Gaidarski shows in-depth theoretical knowledge in the field of information security and data protection, showing capabilities for independent research.

The dissertation thesis is well formed meaningfully and graphically, and some stylistic inaccuracies I have shared with the PhD student.

I allow myself to recommend that he continue his research in this perspective by publishing articles in magazines referenced on the Scopus and Web of Sciences.

CONCLUSION

With regard to the procedure for acquiring the educational and scientific degree "Doctor", **Ivan Kostadinov Gaidarski fulfills the requirements of the ZRASRB, the PPZRASRB and the rules for the specific conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and for holding academic positions at IICT**. The calculated **scientific indicators** (Group A – 50 p. (current dissertation work); and Group D – 53.3 p.) **thresholds for the** acquisition of the doctor's **degree.**

The research carried out in volume and content and the scientific and applied contributions achieved give me reason to recommend to the Scientific Jury to award **Ivan Kostadinov Gaidarski** the educational and scientific degree "**Doctor**" in professional field 5.3. Communication and Computer Technologies.

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