

STANDPOINT

By Prof. Dr. Tilcho Kolev Ivanov, guest-prof. in UNSS,
Economics and Management of Defense and Security
on the acquisition of the scientific degree "doctor" in professional
field 9. Security and defense,
with candidate Teodora Kirilova Licheva.

1. Significance of the researched problem in scientific and scientific-applied terms.

The dissertation submitted for evaluation on the topic "Blockchain Security in Public Administration" explores the application of the new technological possibility to apply the blockchain concept, system and data processing tools for the provision of services and record keeping in the public administration of the country. The researched problem has a high relevance and significance, both in scientific and scientific-applied terms. The author convincingly argues his thesis that the application of the blockchain toolkit is able to improve the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of the work of the state administration, as well as the reliability and security of the processed data for the state administration. This increases public trust and ensures information reliability and public security.

2. Justification of the objectives and tasks in the dissertation work.

The author defines the purpose of the work by relating it to the research thesis. Accepts that the purpose of the research is to prove the thesis that "... with the introduction of the blockchain system, the state administration will be transformed, modernized and modernized, increasing citizens' trust in it, administrative services will be digitized and data collection will be on the "just once" principle".

I accept that it can be interpreted as a study, presenting the possibilities and arguing for the implementation of appropriate blockchain methodologies in data processing in public administration. The author analyzes the experience of leading countries in the world, the USA, China, South Korea and other leading Western countries from Europe and argues the need, possibility and conditions for transition from Electronic to Digital Government.

The tasks of the study are essentially fulfilled by the three chapters of the study: Clarifying the nature and elements of blockchain security; Conceptualization (presentation of the foundations of a theoretical framework) of the relationship between blockchain management and the security of state administration, as well as conditions for the implementation and, Proposing a model of digital governance state administration based on blockchain.

These tasks demonstrate accumulated theoretical and applied knowledge of the researched scientific field and ability for independent research by the author of the related issue.

3. Correspondence between the chosen methodology and research methodology and the set goal and tasks of the dissertation work.

The applied methodology includes three private methodologies: Development and implementation of a three-layer model for introducing the blockchain system in timber management; Using Blockchain to Create a Smart Border and Using Blockchain in Law Enforcement. It applies the general scientific methods of deduction, general and comparative analysis. It uses system analysis and a method for researching the possibilities of implementing new blockchain technological solutions. The chosen methodology and methods correspond to the set goal and tasks of the dissertation work.

4. Scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the dissertation work (description and evaluation), including the presence of an original contribution in science.

Scientific contributions, according to the author of the work, include:

- Proposal of modern solutions for changing the administration, as part of the state administration.
- Argumentation of the potential and applicability of blockchain technology in various sectors of public administration.
- Definition of the concept of "management security".

I take these contributions as accomplished with the addition that governance security is defined with the main benefits of implementing blockchain technology in government. I also believe that these contributions are quite generalized and do not exhaust the concrete contribution results of the work. To them can be added:

- Identification of the problems and limitations when implementing the blockchain technology in the public administration in the country.
- A proposal for a transition to digital government management, as well as the difficulties in this transition.
- Evaluation of the expected effects of application of blockchain technology to improve management during the transition from electronic government to digital government, as well as of.

**5. Evaluation of the publications on the dissertation work:
number, nature of the publications,
in which they are published.**

On the topic of the dissertation, the author has published two monographs - Digital transformations in archival work (2022) and Modern security in management (2023). Both were issued by the NTS for mechanical engineering "Industria-4.0". Apart from them, he has published nine articles and reports on the same topic. Two of their articles on the implementation of blockchain technology were published in the magazine "Security and Defense", (2022 and 2023). Two other reports were issued in Collection of proceedings of the Scientific Conference "Current Issues in Security", (2022) on the topics

"Blockchain and the Security Ecosystem" and "Information Security in Public Administration through Blockchain". Two more are published in Collection of reports from the international scientific conference "CONFSEC 2022", (2022) on the topics "Information Security in Archival Science" and "The Blockchain System - an Information Security Challenge". Two more are published in Collection of reports from the annual scientific conference of VTU "Vasil Levski", (2023) on the topics "Data security in blockchain technology" and "Digital transformation and information security in the public and private sector". A report was published in Collection of reports from the international scientific conference "Rights and Security" of the NBU (2023).

The presented publications guarantee high publicity of the author's research in the country. Publication of research results in secondary international and refereed sources is recommended.

6. Citation by other authors, reviews in the scientific press, etc.

I have no data on citations of works by other authors and reviews in the scientific press. Undoubtedly, due to the novelty and significance of the researched issues, such exist or will be made.

7. Opinions, recommendations and notes.

I accept that the proposed work contains significant ideas and scientific and scientific-applied results, clarifying the conditions, possibilities and conditions for the implementation of blockchain technology in the state administration of the country. The conducted research offers new ideas and contributing results, the implementation of which can make a significant contribution to the modernization of the state administration in the country.

I recommend that future work on the problem avoid excessive content fragmentation.

Lists of abbreviations used, tables and figures, and a glossary of terms would also be useful to facilitate the use of the work.

An important point of the research is the clarification of the criteria for evaluating the results of the blockchain digitization process of the state administration, as well as the related issues concerning guaranteeing the rights and freedoms of citizens with the inevitable increase in the degree of state control of their personal behavior.

It is good to avoid some spelling and structural errors (P. 3.4, Fig. 39, Table 4.).

8. Conclusion with a clearly formulated positive or negative assessment of the dissertation work.

In general, a research paper explores a current topic and sets a challenging goal. Uses a clear and logical presentation style, well-reasoned results and contributions with research novelty. With it, the author shows the ability to analyze and offer ideas for solutions to complex problems of the transformation of public administration in the country. The theoretical summaries made and the contribution results obtained correspond to the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff and the Regulations for its Application, which gives me the reason to propose to the Honorable Scientific Jury of the NBU to award the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" to Teodora Kirilova Licheva in field of higher education 9. Security and defense, professional direction 9.1 National security.

March 18, 2024

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