

**Charles University, Faculty of Social Sciences, Prague
IPS/IEPS**

Referee Report on the Master Thesis submitted to State Exam

Student name: Svetlozar Velikov
Thesis Supervisor name: Tomáš Cahlík
Title of the thesis: **Corrupt Practices in Bulgaria during the
Transition Period and the Impact of the EU
Accession**

Overall Evaluation: The Master thesis presents an interdisciplinary analysis of the corruption in Bulgaria during the post-communist transformation. The author endeavors to analyze principle reasons for increase of corruption in Bulgaria after the collapse of communist regime and during the transformation period. He divides the transformation period into two stages. The first one up to 2000 is characteristic for an increase of corruption and lack or inadequate measures against corruption. The second one since 2000 is connected with EU accession and membership and with introduction of relatively efficient anticorruption legislation and measures.

The thesis has logical structure. It is properly structured and based on an adequate literature survey and internet sources. The author was able to fulfill the goals he stated in the introductory part of the thesis. He starts with an explanation of a theoretical framework for analysis of corrupt behavior and the history of discussions about corruption. The second chapter is devoted to rapidly increasing corruption during 1990s and in the third chapter the anti-corruption legislation and institutions are treated. In the fourth chapter the author focuses on the problems with corruption in the 'civic' sector (or better non-profit sector) that was originally believed to play the role of a solution but was connected in corrupt behavior as the rest of the society. In the fifth chapter the development of the National Anti-corruption strategy, anticorruption measures and institutions after 2000 in connection with the EU accession process is described and analyzed.

The thesis is written in acceptable English. Therefore, I recommend the thesis for the defense and suggest grade A or B ('excellent or 'very good') depending on the defense.

During the defense the author could discuss the impact of the EU legislation on the Bulgarian anti-corruption measures and the role of ombudsman in suppressing corruption in Bulgaria.

**Prof. Ing. Milan Sojka, CSc.
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Evaluated on: June 14, 2008