

## SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR'S REFERENCE

<b>Program:</b>	Master in Information Technologies and Innovation Management
<b>Student:</b>	Aleksandra Lukavchenko
<b>Title of thesis:</b>	DECISION-MAKING CRITERIA FOR CYBERSECURITY ADOPTION

<p><b>Justification of the topic choice. Accuracy in defining the aim and objectives of the thesis.</b> Justification of the topic choice; accuracy in defining the aim and tasks of the thesis; originality of the topic and the extent to which it was covered; alignment of the thesis' topic, aim and objectives.</p>
<p>The topic is well-justified in the introduction and in the chapter titled "Cybersecurity in contemporary management". The goal is clear and four objectives provide a coherent outline of the paper.</p>
<p><b>Structure and logic of the text flow.</b> Logic of research; full scope of the thesis; alignment of thesis' structural parts, i.e. theoretical and empirical parts.</p>
<p>The paper consist of eight parts (including references and conclusions), however there are just three "big" chapters. These chapters have strong logic and it is easy to follow the author's idea.</p>
<p><b>Quality of analytical approach and quality of offered solution to the research objectives.</b> Adequacy of objectives coverage; ability to formulate and convey the research problem; ability to offer options for its solution; application of the latest trends in relevant research are for the set objectives.</p>
<p>The problem of cybersecurity is relatively new to management science. This didn't stop the author and she provided a good analytical work to approach this problem. As a result, solutions are interesting and not "standard" which shows the creative potential of the author.</p>
<p><b>Quality of data gathering and description.</b> Quality of selecting research tools and methods; data validity adequacy; adequacy of used data for chosen research tools and methods; completeness and relevance of the list of references.</p>
<p>Data quality is appropriate for the chosen method.</p>
<p><b>Scientific aspect of the thesis.</b> Independent scientific thinking in solving the set problem/objectives; the extent to which the student contributed to selecting and justifying the research model (conceptual and/or quantitative), developing methodology/approach to set objectives.</p>
<p>Fuzzy logic in fuzzy Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method used for empirical analysis. Author showed good knowledge of the method. The paper on the conference that author presented recently proves this thesis.</p>
<p><b>Practical/applied nature of research.</b> Extent to which the theoretical background is related to the international or Russian managerial practice; development of applied recommendations; justification and interpretation of the empirical/applied results.</p>
<p>The paper is very practical and has good executive potential.</p>
<p><b>Quality of thesis layout.</b> Layout fulfils the requirements of the Regulations for master thesis preparation and defence, correct layout of tables, figures, references.</p>
<p>Corresponds to SPbU GSOM criteria</p>

The Master thesis of Aleksandra Lukavchenko meets the requirements for master thesis of Master in Management program thus the author of the thesis can be awarded the required degree.

Scientific Advisor:  
Konstantin Krotov

