FINANCE AND ECONOMIC ACCOUNTING – FACULTIES, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND A 70-YEAR TRADITION

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Abstract: At a solemn joint session, the Faculty Councils of the Faculty of Finance and the Faculty of Economic Accounting at the D.A. Tsenov Academy of Economics celebrated the 70th anniversary of their establishment. By Decree No. 289 of August 20, 1953, effective from September 1, 1953, the Presidium of the National Assembly redistributed and regrouped the specialties at the Higher Financial and Economic Institute in Svishtov, into two faculties - Financial-Statistical and Accounting. Over the years, the faculties have changed their names several times - Financial-Statistical (1953), Financial-Economic (1973), and the Faculty of Finance (1993), and respectively - Accounting (1953), Accounting-Economic (1973), and the Faculty of Economic Accounting (1993). The purpose of this article is to present the results of celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Faculty of Finance and the Faculty of Economic Accounting at the D.A. Tsenov Academy of Economics through the organization and conduct of a prestigious international scientific forum.

Key words: scientific research, concluding document, scientific conference, finance, economic accounting.

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Introduction

January 1952, the Higher School of Economics and Social Sciences in Svishtov was renamed the Higher Financial and Economic Institute. Existing specialties were grouped into two departments - Financial-Economic and Accounting-Statistical. The following year, by Decree No. 289 of August 20, 1953, effective from September 1, 1953, the Presidium of the National Assembly, redistributed and reorganized the specialties at the Higher Financial and Economic Institute in Svishtov, into two faculties - Financial-Statistical and Accounting (Zahariev & Atanasov, 2023). To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the two faculties at the Higher Education Institution, a Project for Funding Scientific Forum No. NF-2-2023 "Challenges for Finance and Economic Reporting in Conditions of Multiple Crises" was developed at the Institute of Scientific Research, the results of which form the basis of this publication.

The purpose of this article is to present the results of celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Faculty of Finance and the Faculty of Economic Accounting at the D.A. Tsenov Academy of Economics through the organization and conduct of a prestigious international scientific forum. With this purpose in mind, the article is structured into the following distinct sections. The first paragraph presents the concluding document from the scientific conference "Challenges for Finance and Economic Accounting in Conditions of Multiple Crises" (Svishtov, November 9-10, 2023). The second paragraph focuses on the analysis of historical evidence regarding the development of the Faculty of Finance and the Faculty of Economic Accounting, including an examination through the lens of their structural units - the departments. The third paragraph presents the prospects for the development of the two main units within the structure of the D.A. Tsenov Academy of Economics, along with the numerous congratulatory addresses received.

1. Concluding document of the Jubilee International Scientific and Practical Conference

On November 9th and 10th, 2023, at the D.A. Tsenov Academy of Economics in Svishtov, a Jubilee International Scientific and Practical Conference titled "Challenges for Finance and Economic Accounting in Conditions of Multiple Crises", was held, dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the Faculty of Finance and the Faculty of Economic Reporting at the D.A. Tsenov Academy of Economics in Svishtov. Besides physical attendance, the conference was

organized to allow for simultaneous online participation. The working languages of the conference were Bulgarian and English.

The two-day forum was attended by 90 participants from seven countries: Bulgaria, Moldova, Greece, Serbia, Türkiye, Austria, and the Czech Republic. Among them were university lecturers and researchers from 14 higher education institutions from Bulgaria and abroad, as well as representatives from 5 institutions and organizations from the Bulgarian and the international practice.



The conference's opening took place during the Joint Session of the Faculty Councils of the Faculty of Finance and the Faculty of Economic Accounting, its focus being on the rich history, current status, and promising future of financial accounting and economic science. The significant importance of traditions and the sustainability of the achievements of scientific and research work at both faculties were highlighted. The Rector of the D.A. Tsenov Academy of Economics, Prof. Dr. Bozhinova, greeted the acting deans of the jubilee faculties and wished success and creative boldness to all present. The ceremony continued with the presentation of plaques of merit to the former deans of the faculties in attendance - Prof. D.Sc. Vasil Merazchiev, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milka Tomeva, and Prof. Dr. Yordan Vasilev.

In total, there were presented a plenary report, 90 reports in Bulgarian and English, and 100 abstracts in English (https://doi.org/10.58861/tae.cf.9789 542324270). The participants had the opportunity to present their research and ideas, that resulted in fruitful discussions and the emergence of ideas for future theoretical and applied research.

The plenary report on the topic "The Faculty of Finance, the Faculty of Economic Accounting 70 Years – Traditions, Innovations, Leadership" was presented by both deans. The presentation focused on the consolidation of the faculties, departments, students, academic staff, scientific publications, and achievements.

Prof. Dr. Andrey Zahariev, Dean of the Faculty of Finance, opened **Section 1**, where speakers presented their research in four scientific directions, including "Investments, Banking, Corporate, and Public Finance – Theory and Practice," "Current State and Prospects in Insurance Development," "Current Problems in Economic Theory," and "Current Aspects of Language Teaching, Physical Education, and Sports" in the Faculty of Finance and the Faculty of Economic Accounting.



In the first section, 35 scientific reports in Bulgarian and English languages were presented, along with 38 abstracts in English. These covered issues related to finance, public finance, taxation, financial integration, and economic growth within the European Union. The reports reflected on the impact of crises on the insurance market, labor market, economic sociology, employment, and education, including foreign language and digital aspects.

Professor Dr. Atanas Atanasov, Dean of the Faculty of Economic Accounting, opened **Section 2**, where speakers presented reports in three scientific directions: "Theoretical and Applied Aspects of Accounting and Audit," "State and Prospects of Control and Analysis," and "Statistics in the 21st Century - Issues in Theory and Practice."



Section 2 featured 55 scientific reports in Bulgarian and English languages, accompanied by 62 abstracts in English. The discussions in this section focused on sustainable development issues, corporate social responsibility, green accounting, additive manufacturing, ESG standards, SDGs, business combinations, and consolidated financial statements. Reforms in customs activities, financial statement audits, financial management, and analysis of municipalities, artificial intelligence and control, statistical analysis in agriculture, environmental preservation, and medicine were also covered.

During the conference, ideas and potential solutions regarding finance and economic accounting in times of multiple crises were discussed. Expert opinions were presented, advocating for the practical application of new and enhanced technologies, methods, and models that align with the highest levels of global scientific achievements. The extensive variety of thematic subjects, approaches, and models in the scientific research of finance and economic reporting in conditions of multiple crises provided an opportunity to conclude that profound, relevant, and useful proposals have been formulated.

These proposals encompassed conclusions, ideas, and recommendations for possible solutions concerning the stability of the financial and insurance system, achieving economic growth, challenges for economic accounting, control, analysis, and audits. They also covered the application of statistics as both theory and practice and the current aspects of foreign language education, physical education, and sports.

2. Historical evidence and achievements in the development of the Faculty of Finance and the Faculty of Economic Accounting at the D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics

During the ceremonial session of both faculty councils, deserving attention was given to the deans of the Faculty of Finance – prof. Minko Rusinov, prof. Petar Mastikov, assoc.-prof. Marin Ivanov, prof. Lazar Ralchev, prof. Ivan Ivanov, prof. Delcho Poryazov, prof. Slavcho Slavev, prof. Methodi Hristov, prof. Hristo Draganov, prof. Methodi Kanev, assoc.-prof. Sofroni Dilkov, assoc.-prof. Kolyu Kolev, prof. Radko Radkov, prof. Neno Pavlov, prof. Velichko Adamov, prof. Rumyana Lilova, prof. Yordan Vasilev, and prof. Andrey Zahariev. Similarly, attention was given to the deans of the Faculty of Economic Accounting – prof. Totyu Totev, prof. Velichko Nankov, prof. Hristo Marinov, prof. Dimitar Spasov, prof. Petar Mastikov, prof. Nikola Mutafov, prof. Slavcho Slavev, assoc.-prof. Stefan Alexandrov, prof. Moino Moinov, assoc.-prof. Vasil Bozhkov, prof. Vasil Merazchiev, prof. Georgi Batashki, assoc.-prof. Milka Tomeva, assoc.-prof. Mikhail Mikhailov, assoc.-prof. Stefan Stefanov, assoc.-prof. Rossitsa Koleva, and prof. Atanas Atanasov.



It was reported that during the academic year 2022/2023, a total of 706 students were enrolled in both bachelor's and master's degree programs at the

Faculty of Finance, and a total of 669 students in the two degree levels at the Faculty of Economic Accounting.

As of the current moment (2023), the academic staff structure is as follows: the Faculty of Finance consists of 6 professors, 1 honorary professor, 11 associate professors, 1 honorary associate professor, 14 senior assistant professors with PhDs, 2 assistant professors with PhDs, 3 senior lecturers with PhDs, and 6 senior lecturers. The Faculty of Accounting consists of 2 professors, 17 associate professors, 11 senior assistant professors with PhDs, 3 senior lecturers with PhDs, 2 senior lecturers, and 1 lecturer.

The total number of published scientific research in the Faculty of Finance during the academic year 2022/2023 is 77 in total – comprising 2 monographs, 15 studies, 27 articles, 21 reports, and 12 abstracts. There were also published 20 textbooks and 23 workbooks.

Катедрена структура на Факултет "Финанси" и факултет "Стопанска отчетност"

Катедра Катедра

"Финанси и кредит"

Катедра

"Застраховане и социално дело"

Катедра "Обща теория на икономиката"

Катедра "Чуждоезиково обучение"

"Счетоводна отчетност"

Катедра

"Контрол и анализ на стопанската дейност" **Катедра** "Статистика и приложна математика" **Катедра** "Физическо

възпитание и спорт"

Thus, the total volume of publication activity in the Faculty of Finance during the academic year has reached 120 titles or 7,365 publishing pages. This includes 11 publications indexed in Scopus/Web of Science by members and doctoral students from the faculty.



The total number of published scientific research in the Faculty of Accounting during the academic year 2022/2023 is 68 in total – consisting of 3 monographs, 7 studies, 29 articles, 24 reports, and 5 abstracts.



During this period, the academic staff of the faculty has authored 24 textbooks and 1 workbook. The total volume of publications for the academic

year is 93 titles or 7,100 publishing pages. Additionally, 30 studies have been published in journals abroad.

3. Congratulatory addresses and academic identity of the Faculty of Finance and the Faculty of Economic Accounting at the D. A. **Tsenov Academy of Economics**

Congratulatory addresses were read, announced and received at the ceremonial joint session of the faculty councils, held in aud. 10 as follows:

1. Prof. Dr. Mariyana Bozhinova – Rector of D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics – Svishtov



70 ГОДИНИ ФАКУЛТЕТИ "СТОПАНСКА ОТЧЕТНОСТ" И "ФИНАНСИ" КАТЕГОРИЧНО ПРИСЪСТВИЕ В ИСТОРИЯТА, НАСТОЯЩЕТО И БЪДЕЩЕТО НА АКАДЕМИЯТА



От името на академичното ръководство на Сто-

мое име, Ви поднасям искрените си поздравления по случай 70-годишнината от създаването на факултетите "Стопанска отчетност" и "Финанси". Тази бележита годишнина, която ознаменувате с поредица юбилейни събития и научни форуми, е безспо-рен белег за стремежите на мотивирания академичен състав на двата факултета не само да отстоява завещаното им безценно богатство от първостроителите на Висшето учили-ще, но и да надгражда тях-ното настояще и бъдеще с нестихваща амбиция и творчески размах.

От далечната 1953 г. до наши дни двата факултета градят безспорния си авторитет като генератор на висококвалифицирани специалисти в областта на икономиката, счетоводството и контрола, финансите и банковото дело в страната и имат важна роля и категорично при-съствие в историята, на-стоящето и бъдещето на нашата Академия. Академичният състав и факул-тетските им ръководства винаги са се фокусирали целенасочено и задълбо-чено не само в подготовката на висококвалифицирани икономисти с прост-

ранни общотеоретични, фундаментални и практико-приложни знания, но и в създаването на значими научни резултати, отклик-вайки на потребностите на макроикономическата, финансовата, банко-вата, застрахователната, социалната, счетоводната, контролната и статистиче-ската теория и практика. Уважаеми професор

уважаеми професор Атанасов, професор Захариев, скъпи колеги от факултетите "Стопанска отчетност" и "Финанси", на всички Вас – преподаватели, студенти и възлитаници, които се чувстват неразривно свързани с

факултетите-юбиляри, от сърце Ви желаем креп-ко здраве, ентусиазъм и градивна амбиция за утвърждаване проспери-тета на двата факултета като престижни учебни, научни и изследователски средища! Вашите усилия и талант са достатъчен повод и причина Висшето ни училище да се гордее, че е люлка на модерна, перспективна, с европейски и световен облик университетска наука! Честит празник!

Проф. д-р Марияна Ректор на СА "Д. А. Ценов

- 2. Prof. Dr. Margarita Bogdanova on behalf of the deans of the Faculty of Management and Marketing and the Faculty of Industry and Commerce at the D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics;
- 3. Dr. Rusalin Rusalinov President of the Bulgarian National Karate Federation;

- 4. Associate Professor Dr. Daniela Georgieva, Dean of the Finance and Accounting Faculty at the University of Economics Varna;
- 5. Prof. Dr. Sergey Okhrimenko, Moldovan Academy of Economic Sciences, Chisinau;
- 6. Associate Professor Dr. Andrei Buiga, Dean of the Finance and Accounting Faculty at Artifex University, Bucharest;
- 7. Prof. Dr. Rumen Brusarski, Dean of the Faculty of Finance and Accounting, UNWE-Sofia;
- 8. Brigadier General Ivan Malamov Rector of Vasil Levski National Military University, Veliko Tarnovo;
- 9. Prof. D.Sc.Diana Petkova, Chairperson of the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, Sofia;
 - 10. Dr. Stefan Belchev Director of ADFI, Sofia;
- 11. Associate Professor Dr. Stoyan Kirov, Head of the Department of Finance, University of Economics Varna;
- 12. Associate Professor Dr. Nadezhda Popova-Yosifova Head of the Department of Economic Accounting, University of Economics Varna;
- 13. Prof. Dr. Rumyana Lilova former Dean of the Faculty of Finance at D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics;
- 14. Associate Professor Dr. Krasimira Slaveva Chairperson of the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, Svishtov branch;
- 15. Prof. Dr. Lyubcho Varamezov Head of the Department of Industrial Business and Entrepreneurship at D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics Svishtov;
- 16. Associate Professor Dr. Evelina Parashkevova Head of the Department of Strategic Planning at D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics Svishtov;
- 17. Associate Professor Dr. Teodora Filipova Head of the Department of Commerce at D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics Svishtov;
- 18. Associate Professor Dr. Irena Emilova Head of the Department of Management at D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics Svishtov;
- 19. Associate Professor Dr. Zdravko Lyubenov Head of the Department of International Economic Relations at D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics Svishtov:
- 20. Prof. Dr. Marina Nikolova Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics Svishtov;
- 21. Prof. D. Sc. Neno Pavlov Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the "Prof. Dr. Veleslav Gavriyski" Foundation.

On behalf of the academic staff of the two faculties, words of gratitude were expressed for the good wishes and high esteem conveyed in these congratulatory addresses.

Conclusion

The traditions bequeathed by the benefactor Dimitar A. Tsenov in the teaching of financial and commercial sciences, banking, insurance, and social activities are passed through the work of Acad. Ivan Stefanov, Corresponding Member of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Prof. Todor Vladigerov, as well as professors Velislav Gavriyski, Ivan Katsarov, Stefan Stanev, Minko Rusenov, Totyu Totev, Velichko Nankov, Dimitar Spasov, Petar Mastikov, Nikola Mutafov, Slavcho Slaviev, Delcho Poryazov, Moino Moinov, Vasil Merazchiev, and Neno Pavlov. They have established the national and international authority of the specialties in the Faculty of Finance and the Faculty of Economic Accounting at the D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics - Svishtov. Their academic successors have strengthened the popularity of financiers, accountants, insurers, auditors, and statisticians, turning Svishtov into a center of scientific schools. Through their activities and policies, each of the deans and heads of departments has contributed to the justified claim for leadership in the university world of Bulgaria.

Today's generations of scholars from both faculties, having carried over the years the message of Dimitar Tsenov's donation 'with the wish for the Bulgarian people to continuously walk the path of cultural progress towards the attainment of their ideal,' have grounds for pride in the achievements within the seventy-year history, measured by the successes of hundreds of defended doctoral dissertations and tens of thousands of graduated bachelors and masters.

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