

DOCTORAL THESIS EVALUATION STATEMENT

by Assoc. Prof. Vasil Hristov Stankov, PhD
Academy of National and Information Security – Plovdiv
Field of Higher Education 9. Security and Defense;
Professional Field 9.1 National Security
v.stankov@vusi.info; 0887709865

Regarding the dissertation work of Miroslav Boruta Krakowski entitled **THE IMPACT OF MIGRATION UPON EUROPEAN IDENTITY AND SECURITY**, presented for acquiring a Doctor of Sciences degree in the field of higher education 9. Security and Defense, professional field 9.1. National Security.

Plovdiv

2025

This statement was assigned by decision of the scientific jury, Protocol No. 1/30.10.2025 and was prepared after reviewing a set of documents and materials in accordance with the procedure.

1. Relevance and Pertinence of the Research Topic

Migration nowadays is a multi-faceted social phenomenon with a significant long-term impact upon national, regional and international security. On the European continent, migration has long existed as an important socio-political factor with versatile implications for the various aspects of security.

Recent decades have witnessed profound changes in the nature and main characteristics of migration in terms of direction, scale, root causes, and impact. The post-Cold War migration can be divided into two main stages:

(a) from the dismantling of the 'Iron Curtain' between Western and Eastern Europe to the emergence of refugee flows from the Middle East at the beginning of the first decade of the 21st century;

(b) from the emergence of the migrant crisis in 2015 to the consolidation of the European migration policy adopted in 2024 with the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum. A crucial event at the end of this period is the war in Ukraine, which still generates waves of refugees to several European countries.

This highlights the growing need for in-depth studies of migration as one of the most dynamic drivers with a diverse impact upon European identity and security.

The thesis is relevant because the study of the origins, incentives, and mechanisms of migration promotes the further exploration of its cross-border, interstate and domestic dimensions. A distinctive earmark of the dissertation is the extended analysis of the humanitarian and political aspects of migration as interrelated features objectively modified by the changes in the security environment. The conclusions of the analysis create a basis for reconciling the EU civilizational approach with the security needs of both

the Union and its member states in the implementation of the specific EU migration policies.

Researching the complex factors affecting European security, including migration, is of particular importance today, when the EU is seeking comprehensive and effective solutions to a number of challenges within the framework of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). The topic's pertinence is amplified by the fact that migration's political, economic, social, and cultural impact on multiple European countries has made it a permanent feature of the European security landscape.

2. Evaluation of the Scientific Findings and Contributions

The dissertation's scientific findings are significant and useful, providing a foundation for public and theoretical discourse on how to address the challenges and mitigate the risks to European identity and security posed by the multidirectional impact of migration.

The dissertation offers several key merits and contributions, including the following:

- The thesis presents an original model for assessing migration as a complex socio-political phenomenon from a moral, philosophical, and psychological perspective.

The author analyzed migration from a group and individual identity perspective intertwined with the existential needs of people and their communities. Thus, the study focuses on security at the individual (personal) level, where the effect is multiplied by the factors acting at the higher levels of security. The distinctive features of the model are its broad scope and applicability, which is important for the implementation of practical approaches that manage contradictions and highlight possibilities for dialogue and interaction.

- In-depth analysis shows that identity, an essential feature of individuals and societies, has a dual nature. This duality is presented as a key reason for opposing attitudes

toward the ethno-religious and cultural differences that migration can stimulate.

At its core, the analysis posits that identity serves a dual function: it unifies people into a single global society, while also differentiating them through diverse languages, religions, customs, and traditions. In fact, the author's deliberations provide a basis for discussing how either personal or collective choice can make one function primary or decisive.

- The thesis defines 'cultural security' as a state of affairs where society, governance, and individuals can uphold their cultural identity while also freely integrating the experiences of other communities. Among the merits of the dissertation is that cultural security is defined as an important aspect of both national and individual security. The study examines the connection between cultural and other aspects of security (military, economic, internal) and analyses the impact of migration on this specific area of security.

- A significant amount of data has been collected, summarised, interpreted and presented to support the primary arguments and the main conclusions of the dissertation.

3. Opinion on the matter of plagiarism

All sources are correctly cited, and there are no signs of plagiarism.

4. Critical remarks

I have no specific criticisms of the thesis of Mr. Miroslav Boruta Krakowski. The thesis serves as a foundation for future research, offering a solid starting point for deeper exploration of the topic.

5. Conclusions

The dissertation thesis of Miroslav Boruta Krakowski entitled THE IMPACT OF MIGRATION UPON EUROPEAN IDENTITY AND SECURITY addresses a relevant and pertinent scientific problem, makes the necessary theoretical and applied contributions

and yields concrete results. Therefore, all conditions are met for the successful completion of this procedure.

I vote that Mr Miroslav Boruta Krakowski be conferred the degree of Doctor of Sciences in the Field of Higher Education 9. Security and Defense, Professional Field 9.1. National Security.

.....

Assoc. Prof. Vasil Stankov, PhD

November 28, 2025

Plovdiv