

REVIEW

by Doctor of Economic Sciences, Professor,
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on the qualification thesis of **RIVILIS Igor** on the topic:
“Global Waste Management and Corporate Social Responsibility”,
submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the field of knowledge
07 “Management and Administration” in specialty 073 “Management”

Relevance of the qualification work topic. Humanity accumulates waste and pollutes the environment. To solve the waste problem, a global response is needed, utilizing principles of corporate social responsibility. Waste management encompasses processes and measures from the moment waste is generated to its final disposal. This process includes collection, transportation, recycling, and disposal of waste, as well as monitoring and regulating waste management processes, legislation, technologies, and economic mechanisms related to waste. Most consumers agree that, while achieving business goals, companies should be socially responsible. Corporate social responsibility is a form of international self-regulation by private business that supports societal goals through community development, providing financial grants to non-profit organizations for the public good, or engaging in ethically-oriented business practices and investment strategies.

The need to develop an effective waste management model and establish corporate social responsibility at both global and local levels underscores the relevance of the qualification work topic, the correctness of positioning the subject and object, as well as the aims and tasks of the dissertation. The object of the research is the waste management process and corporate social responsibility, while the subject is the set of theoretical and practical aspects that define the waste management process within the framework of corporate social responsibility.

Connection to scientific programs, plans, and topics. The research was conducted in accordance with the research plans of the West Ukrainian National University, specifically: fundamental state budget funding researches “National concept of eco-security of society and inclusion of the circular economy in

the conditions of the pandemic” (state registration number 0121U109485); “Concept of recovery and green reconstruction of Ukraine” (state registration number 0124U000003); implementation of the international project (Erasmus+ Module Jean Monnet) “European inclusive circular economy: post-war and post-pandemic module for Ukraine (EICEPPMU)” 2022-2024, registration number 101085640); business funding research on the topic “Transformation of business in conditions of sustainable development of the global economy” (Contract No. MEV-33-2023 dated 05/10/2023); business funding research on the topic “Scientific and professional consulting of the enterprise on issues of social responsibility and organization of recycling” (Contract No. MEV-81-2021 dated 01/10/2021); business funding research on the topic “Formation of the company’s ecological brand in foreign markets” (Contract No. MEV-37-2024 dated 25/04/2024), in which author’s proposals for improving theoretical and methodological aspects of waste management and corporate social responsibility are presented.

Personal contribution of the author to the scientific results. The qualification thesis is an independently conducted scientific research in which the researcher has personally developed an applied model for implementing environmental strategic priorities in business based on waste management and the formation of corporate social responsibility. The author is responsible for the scientific ideas of the work, theoretical developments and generalizations, the choice of research methods, conclusions and recommendations, and the practical implementation of the research results. The author’s contribution to collectively published papers is specified in the list of publications; only those ideas that personally belong to the author are used in the dissertation. The personal contribution of the PhD candidate is sufficient.

Degree of justification of scientific propositions, conclusions, and recommendations. The qualification thesis is characterized by a logical structure, reliability, and justification of the formed conclusions and recommendations, as well as a comprehensive review of bibliographic sources. The reliability and justification of the proposals presented in the qualification thesis are based on the use of a significant range of information sources: researches of scholars, legislative and regulatory

documents, data from open sources, and information from enterprises operating on the principles of waste management and corporate social responsibility. The use of information sources by the author is necessary to confirm the validity of the scientific hypotheses formulated by the author and the practical tasks addressed in the research. The reliability of the conducted research is ensured by the use of general philosophical and general scientific methods of understanding phenomena and processes.

The purpose of research aligns with the topic of the qualification thesis. The defined object and subject of the research are adequately covered in the structure and content of the dissertation. Familiarity with its content and structure indicates a comprehensive approach to the author's research, aimed at developing theoretical foundations for waste management and corporate social responsibility within the context of developing an applied model for implementing environmental strategic priorities in business.

The justification and reliability of the obtained scientific research, conclusions, and recommendations are confirmed by a sufficient number of publications on the dissertation topic in periodicals, as well as discussions of the results at international and national scientific-practical conferences. The author's scientific papers adequately reflect his personal contribution to solving theoretical and practical problems in the development of the concept of waste management and the identification of corporate social responsibility theories.

Thus, the content and structure of the thesis fully align with its title, objectives, and research tasks. The scientific propositions are presented consistently and logically, with conclusions and recommendations based on the results of the author's research, which are appropriately tested and based on a variety of information sources.

Degree of scientific novelty of the qualification thesis results. The most significant results that reveal the personal contribution of the candidate to the development of the research topic and characterize the novelty consist of a complex of interrelated scientific developments and proposals. Familiarization with the content of the dissertation by RIVILIS Igor, the author's main scientific papers allowed identifying the most important theoretical and methodological positions, conclusions,

and recommendations that prove the scientific novelty, reflecting the author's scientific contribution to solving the scientific problem regarding the justification of theoretical concepts of waste management and the formation of social corporate responsibility in the context of developing an applied model for implementing environmental strategic priorities of business.

According to the chosen purpose of the dissertation, which is the the scientific substantiation of the theoretical concepts of waste management and the formation of social corporate responsibility in the context of the development the applied model for the implementation the environmental strategic priorities of business and developing practical recommendations for waste management within the system of corporate social responsibility, the author formulated a number of scientific and practical tasks. Its implementation made it possible to obtain results presented in the author's proposals and recommendations, which contain scientific novelty and have practical significance. The achievement of the formulated tasks was made possible through the use of a wide range of scientific and methodological tools, which allowed for scientifically substantiating the conclusions of the dissertation and verifying their applicability in future scientific research and practical activities.

Scientific results aimed at improving theoretical and methodological positions and developing scientifically applied recommendations on waste management and the formation of social corporate responsibility include:

1. Development of a waste management model within the system of corporate social responsibility, based on methods of environmental management and directions of corporate social responsibility. Adaptation of Carroll's pyramid of corporate social responsibility to modern infrastructural conditions of corporate social responsibility in its global interaction. The main properties and characteristics of theories of corporate social responsibility are described, noting that a firm has a moral obligation to achieve social and environmental goals in addition to financial benefits.

2. Improvement of the concept of environmental management in the waste management system by analyzing the environmental management system. The comprehensive system of environmental safety management has been studied,

allowing enterprises to use the synergistic advantages of all its components, optimizing the use of vital materials and organizational resources. This comprehensive approach involves adherence to production standards, labor norms, emission and waste handling protocols, and implementation of resource conservation initiatives. It has been established that the environmental management sphere encompasses socio-economic, political, and scientific aspects, focusing on developing solutions to real problems related to resource extraction, waste formation, and human interaction with nature.

3. Improvement of terminology, including detailed characteristics of waste management and justification of the concept of waste. The term “waste hierarchy” is justified with variants ranked in order of waste minimization preferences. Regional characteristics of waste management trends are established: developed countries have larger volumes of waste generation and thus conduct official waste oversight at the municipal or regional level; less developed countries with smaller volumes of mostly organic waste involve both official and informal participants in waste management. Main directions should include ensuring both international and local financing for zero-waste production systems, developing comprehensive roadmaps and regulatory frameworks to promote their implementation, and integrating zero-waste goals into local and national climate strategies.

4. Assessment of the features of corporate social responsibility in conditions of instability by highlighting stages and approaches of social responsibility, as well as analyzing waste management in the system of circular transformation and analyzing emission levels in conditions of global transnationalization. This allowed outlining levels of circularity, developing cooperation options for waste collection for municipalities, and developing a concept for transitioning from a linear waste management concept to a circular resource management concept. Regulatory barriers and the lack of standardized waste management methods as obstacles to fulfilling corporate responsibility in waste management have been justified. It has been noted that enterprises can integrate various waste management strategies to create the most effective waste management system. While economic efficiency is a key criterion, effective waste management strategies encompass reduction, reuse, and recycling.

Thus, the main scientific positions, results, and conclusions of RIVILIS's Igor qualification thesis have significant scientific novelty, a sufficient degree of justification, and their reliability has been proven by the author.

Completeness of publication of the main provisions of the qualification thesis.

Igor RIVILIS's qualification thesis is an independent, comprehensive, and substantive scientific research. The main provisions and results of the dissertation are presented in 11 scientific papers with a total volume of 7.6 printed sheets, including 3 articles in journals indexed in international scientometric databases Scopus and Web of Science, 3 articles in Ukrainian scientific editions, 1 article in a foreign periodical, and 4 papers of approbation nature.

The dissertation's provisions, which constitute its scientific novelty, have been fully presented and discussed at 4 international and national scientific-practical conferences. The qualification thesis is an independently conducted scientific research, where the theoretical and methodological positions and practical recommendations on waste management and the formation of social corporate responsibility were developed personally by the author. The scientific ideas, theoretical developments and generalizations, conclusions, and recommendations presented for defense and included in the publications are attributed to Igor RIVILIS.

Theoretical and practical significance of the results and recommendations for their use. The theoretical research conducted provides a methodological foundation for the management and analysis of the waste management process and the formation of social corporate responsibility. The main theoretical positions of the qualification thesis have been developed into methodological guidelines that can be applied in the operations of enterprises based on waste management and social corporate responsibility principles.

The practical significance includes proposals on: the key areas of waste management system improvement; the ways of implementation of corporate social responsibility management strategy; the model of waste management in the system of corporate social responsibility.

The scientific results of the research, developed into practical findings and recommendations, are confirmed by the certificate of implementation of West Ukrainian National University (certificate No. 21/69.2024 dated June 28, 2024) regarding participation in scientific research activities.

Assessment of the dissertation structure. Igor RIVILIS's qualification thesis is characterized by a coherent, logical, and comprehensive structure. All sections are interconnected, ensuring a holistic understanding of the researched problem and allowing for the evaluation of the author's scientific contribution and the extent to which the formulated tasks have been addressed in relation to the topic, goal, and objectives of the research.

The formatting of the thesis fully complies with the requirements of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine for qualification scientific theses for obtaining a Doctor of Philosophy degree, according to the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine's Order dated January 12, 2017, No. 40 "On approval of Requirements to design of dissertation".

The qualification thesis consists of an introduction, three chapters, conclusions, a list of references, and annexes. The total volume of the thesis is 179 pages. The thesis includes 2 tables, 35 figures, and 4 annexes on 19 pages. The reference list contains 177 sources.

From a content perspective, the dissertation is a completed scientific work, with results that are both scientifically significant and practically valuable. The conclusions, proposals, and recommendations formulated by the author based on the dissertation's results contain elements of scientific novelty and hold value for the development of theoretical, methodological, and practical aspects of waste management and the formation of social corporate responsibility.

Language and style of presentation. Igor RIVILIS's qualification thesis is prepared in formal English, based on general scientific and economic terminology. The style of the text is scientific, characterized by language compression, logical sequence in the presentation of paragraph and chapter content, clarity in the interpretation of definitions and categories, and meaningful connections among tasks, scientific novelty,

final statements, and conclusions. The work demonstrates objectivity in comparing conducted scientific research and forming the author's position in the fields of management, waste management, and corporate social responsibility.

Compliance of the qualification thesis with the specialty passport. The qualification thesis by Igor RIVILIS on the topic “Global Waste Management and Corporate Social Responsibility” fully meets the established requirements of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, specifically: 1) Specialty Passport 073 – “Management”, the field of knowledge 07 – “Management and Administration”; 2) the requirements established by the “On the Approval of the Procedure for Awarding the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy and the Cancellation of the Decision of a One-time Specialized Academic Council of a Higher Education Institution, Research Institution on Awarding the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy” accepted by the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated January 12, 2022, No. 44; 3) the fundamental requirements for the design of qualification thesis.

Absence (presence) of academic integrity violations. The scientific results of Igor RIVILIS's dissertation were obtained personally by the author. From the co-authored scientific papers, only those ideas and positions personally acquired by the author were used in the dissertation.

No violations of academic integrity have been found in Igor RIVILIS's dissertation. The dissertation includes references to relevant sources of information, provides accurate details about the methods used and the results of the conducted research, and complies with copyright and related rights legislation. This allows the conclusion that the author of the qualification thesis adheres to the requirements and rules of academic integrity.

Critical remarks to the dissertation. Alongside the significant scientific achievements, positive evaluation of the content, and formatting of the qualification thesis, some remarks and points of discussion should be noted:

1. the author analyzes the EU legislation, which encourages member states to improve the organization of their waste disposal systems, pays attention to the waste framework directive, which regulates its level in the EU, and the waste transport

regulation, which regulates the cross-border transportation of waste within the EU. It would be appropriate to consider waste management in the context of the European Green Deal.

2. the author analyzed the level of emissions in the EU in the context of global transnationalization. The war caused an ecological disaster in Ukraine. Today, Ukraine is one of the most polluted countries in the world. As a result, it would be appropriate to more clearly formulate proposals on how to overcome the environmental catastrophe in Ukraine.

3. in paragraph 2.2, the author notes that Ukraine has not yet developed a national model of corporate social responsibility. It would be useful to provide suggestions on what the model of corporate social responsibility in Ukraine should be.

4. the author analyzed a number of scientific papers on the problems of waste management and corporate social responsibility. It would be appropriate to use more scientific papers of Ukrainian researchers in issues of environmental management, circular economy and social responsibility of business, in particular scientists of our university.

These remarks are of a discursive nature and do not diminish the value of the qualification thesis regarding global waste management and corporate social responsibility.

General evaluation of the qualification thesis its compliance with established requirements. Igor RIVILIS's qualification thesis on the topic "Global waste management and corporate social responsibility", submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy is completed independent research containing new scientifically substantiated theoretical and practical results in the field of waste management and corporate social responsibility. The results obtained by the author, as well as the proposed new solutions, recommendations, and conclusions, are accurate and thoroughly substantiated. The dissertation is executed at a high professional level, and its content aligns with the chosen research topic and the profile of the specialty 073 – Management.

In terms of scientific novelty, theoretical and practical significance of the results obtained, structure, language, and style of presentation, Igor RIVILIS' qualification thesis on the topic "Global waste management and corporate social responsibility" meets the requirements of "On the Approval of the Procedure for Awarding the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy and the Cancellation of the Decision of a One-time Specialized Academic Council of a Higher Education Institution, Research Institution on Awarding the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy" approved by the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated January 12, 2022, No. 44 and the requirements of the Order of Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine "On approval of requirements for dissertation design" No. 40 of January 12, 2017 (with amendments from May 31, 2019). The author, Igor RIVILIS, deserves to be awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the specialty 073 "Management" in the field of knowledge 07 "Management and Administration".

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