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## BOOK REVIEWS

Zoran D. Simonović

### MANAGEMENT OF SERBIAN AGRICULTURE IN TRANSITION

Institute of Agricultural Economics, Belgrade 2014.

(Monograph), 2014

Зоран Д. Симоновић

### УПРАВЉАЊЕ АГРАРОМ СРБИЈЕ У ТРАНЗИЦИЈИ

Институт за економику пољопривреде, Београд 2014.

(Монографија), 2014

At the end of 2014 came out of print monograph Dr. Zoran Simonovic "Management of Serbian agriculture in transition." Thus extensive and rich research ventures usually work teams within the Institute, the Ministries and the like. Simonović work is all the more significant because it deals with complex and current management issues in agriculture which by its nature involves a multidisciplinary approach, and knowledge of cultural, sociological, philosophical and historical phenomenon. Without such an approach, the writer could hardly establish two, in our opinion, supporting verticals: the management of agriculture in the European Union and Serbia. Otherwise monograph has six chapters, the preface and conclusion. The very titles of the most extensive chapter "Managing the agriculture in the process of European integration", "Management of Serbian agriculture in the process of transition", "Reform of the agrarian policy of Serbia in the process of transition and European integration" suggests that the author of the monograph gave the most attention to current problems of agriculture in the EU integration and transition processes of agriculture of Serbia.

The European Union has improved its institutions so far is for Serbia and countries in transition in general tend to the task when it comes to fulfill the requirements of the Union. Eligibility for membership includes the comprehensive analysis of the processes that have been happening, and who also have their controversy and legality. The difficulties stem from the very incompleteness of institutionalizing the European Union that Serbia should look up to. Management of agriculture involves mechanisms subject to constant changes. They had to be identified, look for regularities arising from their training and be trendy when it comes to agriculture Serbia. Hence the complexity of the problem, because harmonization of agriculture cannot be so quick to end up in "the fragile" democracies such as in countries in transition. Simonovic is inter alia for that reason resorted comparative approach in order to avoid any possible surprises that with the passage of time is certainly coming due to changes occurring in the European Union. He thus avoided the trap of static recording of facts that would lead to conclusions which would be content with the passage of time wearing attribute obsolescence. In this approach all the discrepancies Serbian and European management in agriculture would lead to heterogeneous and unproductive mere chronological presentation materials. Simonovic has not fallen into this trap has already resorted to the correct solution: dissected it and

elaborated on the issues of governance especially in the EU and especially in Serbia and then a comparative analysis came to transparent and productive results. Under the mean productivity differences and displacement by the author identified that is incurred in the process of institutionalization of management in agriculture both in Europe and in Serbia. Simonovic was very well presented paradigmatic and conceptual phenomena while being careful when making final conclusions which means the same is left “open” for further upgrading and improvement. It is this creative approach Simonović book makes it special and largely non-dogmatic. All this does not mean that their empirical research has not turned into an interesting and often provocative reading, sometimes only apparently the local level such as the SWOT analysis of the state of agriculture in the NIS. The author presents the tasks of managing the transition process constantly making digressions and analogy in relation to the European Union. On when “scans” the control mechanisms still points to the wealth of data that actually water training, and reform of agricultural policy in Serbia from 2000 to 2013. Serbian Agriculture Development Strategy adopted by the government in 2005 in particular was the subject of his research as well as the Law on agriculture in rural development (of 2009. Years) who Simonovic seen as the beginning of affirmation of new trends in agriculture and the opening of roads to implement the harmonization of incentives to the requirements of the European EU and WTO. This is more radical changes in the management concept that is elaborated Simonovic consistently showed that the concept of market economics with its principles and those that are concerned and Agriculture. Simonovic believes that agriculture is not possible without competitiveness. According to him, it springs from the very principles of the functioning of the agricultural policy of the European Union. One of the priorities is the problem of enlarging holdings, which means rationalization of costs, without which the competitiveness of agricultural products.

Simonovic has successfully explored ways of functioning of agricultural management in the European Union in establishing this analogy with the reforms being implemented in agriculture of Serbia. He thus indirectly to the tasks that lie ahead in order to manage agriculture in Serbia functioned in a similar, if not in the same way as in the EU. He believes that agriculture cannot be modernized without stable and harmonized with the EU legislation and only then approach of modernization of machinery equipment. Particular attention to the ecology. The modernization of agriculture, according to him, is not possible without a reformed tax policy. On the parallel and complex analyzes pointed to the ways of taxation in agriculture Polish, Czech, Estonia, Slovakia, etc. Different experiences he managed to summarize the valuable lesson of which Serbia would have to adhere to if he wants a successful reform of agriculture in Serbia. Experience has shown that the Serbian agriculture so far ignored such examples.

Simonovic monograph does not derive only from the transitional news but also of time before the changes started. Successfully establishing a correlation between contrasting policies. The author has paid special attention to the problem of social security which has yet to actualize the concept of neo-liberal economy. He did not hesitate to point out any shortcomings as well as the benefits of neoliberal concept. This is done consistently and precisely: Every problem is explored with an abundance of the latest statistical data, comparative tables and the like. Such analysis has contributed to a relatively uninformed reader understand the importance and necessity of the contemporary management of agriculture. All actors in the Serbian agriculture should

be, according to him, to use the experience of the failure of agrarian reform in Serbia in the twentieth century, then the experience of other countries in transition and of course as a crucial matter, the experience of successful countries of the European Union (Germany, France, Italy). Serbia is still treated as a country with great potential, where agriculture is concerned, that has not been used enough. Her imminent serious work not only to align legislation with the European Union, which is largely made, but also on its implementation.

Simonovic monograph is valuable reading for all those looking for an answer to the question: how agriculture that strengthened and strategic orientation out of the transition? According to him, the guarantee of resources to the favorable climatic conditions, water resources, soil quality, etc. All this should be used as standards in the developed world, particularly the European Union. For something like that it is necessary to devise a management strategy that will take into account the uniqueness of Serbian agriculture or pushing and absorb everything that is good in agriculture developed world. The author has successfully elaborated on the advantages and disadvantages of the existing management of the transition of agriculture which, in our view, enrich the literature on the management of agriculture. The monograph is supported by a large number of tables, graphs, SWOT matrix and other data that his work seems relevant for the most demanding professionals who deal with the problems of agriculture. The book has statistical data of various competent European institutions which only indicates that the exactness of one of the essential value of this book. Successfully documented their claims number and structure of beneficiaries of various measures taken in agriculture after which is usually structured chart that would answer the question: Are you satisfied with the support they receive from the Ministry and thus indirectly hinted that agriculture is very much dependent on from properly made political decisions. Then and charts such as: do you have a computer and internet? What are the reasons for not belonging to an association or cooperative? Do you have suggestions or proposals to the Ministry of Agriculture in the future direction and encouragement of agriculture? This only indicates that Simonović approach was dynamic and creative at the same time. Scientific results of this study were derived from dissection of agrarian flows in different conditions of the international environment. This approach has enabled the management of Serbian agriculture in transition at every moment has its own landmark and that the successful countries of the European Union. Simonovic monograph because of its content and the news will be unavoidable literature for future researchers who deal with the problems of modern agriculture.

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