

To the  
Ministry of Scientific and Technological Development and Higher Education  
Republic of Srpska Government  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

December 6, 2023

**Letter of Recommendation in support of the proposal**  
**“Designing models and algorithms of artificial intelligence for solving hard combi-  
natorial optimization problems”**  
**of the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, University of Banja Luka,**  
**coordinated by Dr. Marko Djukanović**

To whom it may concern,

I know Dr. Marko Djukanović since 2017, when he started in my group as PhD student within the field of combinatorial optimization. Being highly productive and successful from the beginning, his employment culminated in his successful PhD defense in May 2021. Since then, we still have active collaborations on various topics.

One currently ongoing activity is the joint bilateral research project entitled “*Theoretical and Algorithmic Aspects of Solving the Roman Domination Problems*” between Austria and Bosnia and Herzegovina. This project is funded by the OeAD, Austria’s Agency for Education and Internationalisation under contract number BA 05/2023, started on 01/01/2023 and is expected to end by 31/12/2024. Dr. Marko Djukanović is coordinator of this project on Bosnian side, whilst I am coordinating the Austrian side.

My research group and me are highly interested in the new project proposal of Dr. Djukanović, and consequently we strongly support it. We would be delighted to participate in joint seminars and have further staff exchanges.

I therefore strongly recommend the project “Designing models and algorithms of artificial intelligence for solving hard combinatorial optimization problems” for the grant of the Ministry of Scientific and Technological Development and Higher Education, Republic of Srpska Government.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

