



Name and surname: Darko Jakšić

Date of birth: 15 June 1973.

Title: Doctor of Biotechnical Sciences

Scientific title: Research Associate

E-mail address: darko_j@iep.bg.ac.rs, darkojaksic@yahoo.com.au

Education:

Darko Jaksic finished primary and secondary school in Kragujevac. He graduated from the Faculty of Agriculture in Kruševac (Priština) of the University of Priština, specializing in fruit growing and viticulture. He attended the Quality Management specialization at the Quality Center of the University of Kragujevac. From October 2017 to September 2020, he attended the Personal Education Program at the Centro di Ricerca Sperimentazione e Formazione in Agricoltura "Basile Caramia", Locorotondo, Bari (Lokorotondo, Bari) in Italy. He completed his doctoral studies at the Faculty of Biofarming in Bačka Topola, Megatrend University, where he defended his doctoral dissertation entitled "*Terroir* of Oplenac wine-growing district" and obtained the title of Doctor of Biotechnical Sciences (narrower scientific field: viticulture and oenology). He trained professionally at the Mediterranean Institute of Agriculture in Bari (Italy), the Practical Training Center in Ede (Netherlands), the Hokkaido Center in Obihiro (Japan), the World Trade Institute in Bern (Switzerland) and other international institutions and organizations. He has also been trained in the most important wine-growing areas, i.e. in the geographical indications in Italy, Spain, Portugal, Germany and other countries.

Professional experience:

He gained professional experience at the Federal Institute for Plant and Animal Genetic Resources, where he worked on the testing of grapevine varieties, and then at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Serbia, where he managed the Group for Viticulture and Winemaking. Since 2018, he has been working at the Center for Viticulture and Oenology, where he deals with *terroir* research, issues related to geographical indications, local grapevine varieties and international cooperation. Since 2022 he has been working at the Institute for Science Application in Agriculture in Belgrade as a research associate for viticulture and oenology. He teaches as an assistant professor at the Faculty of Biofarming in Bačka Topola. Since 2024, he has been employed at the Institute of Agricultural Economics in Belgrade, where he conducts research in the field of viticulture and oenology.

Scientific and professional activities:

The scientific and professional activities focus primarily on research into *terroir* factors using innovative models, all with the aim of classifying (spatially identifying) sites and micro-areas based on the usefulness of these factors. Another scientific focus is the development of innovative models related to the classification of ecological (abiotic) production conditions, the spatial definition of small appellations, the possibility of using vine rootstocks and other factors as a measure to adapt to climate change, the classification of threats to the genetic resources of the vine, etc. His scientific activity also focused on the research of old local (autochthonous and regional) grapevine varieties and their clonal selection, as well as the development of studies on the protection of geographical indications for wine. He is author/co-author of numerous scientific papers/publications and has led and participated in several national and international scientific and professional projects.

Memberships in professional associations:

He is a member of the expert Commission for the recognition of grapevine varieties, clones and rootstocks of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, the official panel for the sensory evaluation of wine and was nominated as a corresponding member of Matica Srpska. He was the head of the subgroup for the CMO (Common Market Organization) (Chapter 11) in connection with the negotiations with the EU. He was the delegate of Serbia and the contact person for cooperation with the International Organization for Vine and Wine (OIV) and membership in this international organization.

Other:

He speaks the English language. He collaborates with numerous scientific and professional institutions and organizations.

In 2015, he was awarded the "Wine Person" prize by the wine magazine "Vino Fino" for his special contribution to the development of viticulture and winemaking in Serbia.

He won the prize "*Le Prix - 2016 en Monographies*" of the International Organization for Vine and Wine (OIV) in 2016 in Paris - for the book "Viticulture Atlas".