

## **OPINION**

**by Dr. Stoycho Petrov Stoychev,**

**Associate Professor at the Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski “**

on the materials submitted for participation in the open call for the academic position of **"Associate Professor "**, announced by the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" in professional field **2.2. History and Archeology (New Bulgarian History 1878–1944 - Electoral regulations and elections in Bulgaria (the first half of the 20th century))**, published in the State Gazette, no. 48 of 28.06.2022.

In the open call for applications for the position of "Associate professor", announced in the State Gazette, no. 48 of 28.06.2022 and on the website of the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" for the needs of the Faculty of History, only one application was submitted by Dr. Svetoslav Mihailov Zhivkov, Assistant Professor at the "History of Bulgaria" department of the Faculty of History at the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

The set of materials submitted by Dr. Svetoslav Zhivkov is in accordance with the Law on academic personnel and the applicable by-laws and regulations of the scientific organization that announced the open call. The set includes the following documents:

- CV
- Diploma of Higher education
- PhD Diploma
- Document for scientific title or academic position
- Certificate of work experience in the field
- Documents proving the fulfillment of the requirements under Art. 105, para. 1, item 2
- List of publications, inventions and other scientific and applied results:

a/ list of all publications

b/ list of publications submitted for participation in the open call

- List of publications, conferences, projects and scientific handbooks generated by the "Authors" system
- Sample reference for the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements for the relevant scientific field and the additional requirements of SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" with the necessary evidence
- List of citations with full bibliographic description of cited and citing publications
- Reference of original scientific contributions with relevant evidence
- Reference to the indicators under Art. 112, para. 2 with appropriate evidence
- Scientific publications submitted for participation in the competition, structured and numbered
- Summaries of the submitted publications in Bulgarian and in one of the languages traditionally used in the relevant scientific field
- Copy of the announcement in the State Gazette

Svetoslav Zhivkov holds a bachelor's degree in political science (2000-2007), a master's degree in history (1997-2003) and a doctorate in history (2006-2010). All degrees were obtained at the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". He has over 15 years of teaching and research experience. In the period 2006-2010, he taught in several secondary schools and was a part-time teacher at SU, where he led seminar classes on History, Archival Studies, History and Geography, Past and Present of Southeast Europe. Since October 2011, he is chief assistant professor in the Department of "History of Bulgaria" at the Faculty of History of the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". As such, he conducts seminars and lectures in the following disciplines: New Bulgarian History; History of suffrage and electoral systems; Electoral law and electoral systems in the Balkan countries; The Bulgarian elections; The Bulgarian economy.

The candidate participates in the competition with 2 monographs, 13 studies and articles, which do not repeat those used to acquire the educational and scientific degree "doctor". A list of 23 studies and articles, co-authorship in 4 textbooks and handbooks, participation in editorial boards of collections, book reviews, etc. is attached separately. The candidate is a co-organizer in five scientific conferences and a participant in three research projects. The active public activity of Svetoslav Zhivkov includes more than 150 media appearances in a wide list of national media.

In his work as a tutor and researcher, the candidate gradually focused on elections and electoral systems as his professional field. The results of Zhivkov's scientific research quickly find realization as publications and are implemented in the courses he teaches. His academic activity is consistent, systematic and well timed, currently demonstrating full academic maturity for habilitation. The monograph presented as a main habilitation thesis and the complete work of St. Zhivkov demonstrates the possession of the analytical, research and pedagogical abilities necessary for a Bulgarian associate professor, whose findings and discoveries will gradually gain international popularity and citations.

The documents and materials presented by Dr. Svetoslav Zhivkov meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the regulations for its implementation and the relevant regulations of SU "St. Kliment Ohridski". In the open call, the candidate has submitted enough scientific works published after the acquisition of his PhD degree and his participation in a competition for the academic position of "chief assistant professor" at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski". The candidate's works contain original scientific and applied contributions that have received international recognition. His theoretical developments have practical applicability, and some of them are directly oriented to the educational process and the development of new courses. I have not exposed any plagiarism in any of the submitted works. Dr. Zhivkov's scientific and teaching qualifications are undoubted, and his media activity makes an impression. The results achieved by Svetoslav Zhivkov in the educational and scientific research activities fully correspond to the specific requirements of the Sofia University in connection with the application of the national legislation.

After getting acquainted with the materials and scientific works presented in the open call, analyzing their scientific significance and applications, I find it reasonable to give my

positive assessment and to recommend the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the faculty council of the Faculty of History for the election of Dr. Svetoslav Mihailov Zhivkov to the academic position of "associate professor" at the SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" by professional field 2.2. History and archeology (New Bulgarian history 1878–1944 - Electoral regulations and elections in Bulgaria (the first half of the 20th century)).

October 3th, 2022

**Assessor:** .....

Dr. Stoycho P. Stoychev