

## OPINION

by **Dr. Stoyan Iliev Chilikov, Associate Professor of Paisii Hilendarski  
University of Plovdiv**

of the materials submitted for participation in the competition  
for the academic position of '**Associate Professor**'  
at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

in the field of higher education 3.1 Sociology, Anthropology and Culture  
Sciences .

(Research and Communication Culture in the Social Science and Humanities )

In the competition for 'associate professor', announced in the State Gazette,  
issue 48 of 28. 06. 2022 and in the website of Sofia University St. Kliment  
Ohridski

for the needs of the Faculty of Philosophy, as a candidate participates  
Martin Osikovski

### **1. General presentation of the received materials**

#### **Subject:**

By order of the Rector of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

I have been appointed a member of the scientific jury of a competition for the academic position of 'associate professor' in Sofia University in the field of higher education 3.1. Sociology, Anthropology and Culture Sciences (Research and Communication Culture in the Social Science and Humanities), **announced for the needs of the Faculty of Philosophy.**

Documents for participation in the announced competition have been submitted by the only candidate Associate-professor Dr. Martin Osikovski.

Presented by Associate-professor Dr. Martin Osikovski set of paper materials is in accordance with the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of Sofia University, and includes the following documents:

- Application for admission to the competition;
- Autobiography
- Diploma for Master's degree;
- Diploma for PhD degree;
- List of scientific works;
- Information on compliance with the minimum national requirements;
- Annotations of the materials;
- Declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents;
- Certificate of work experience;
- Documents for educational work;
- Documents for scientific-research work.

The candidate Martin Osikovski has submitted a total of 13 scientific papers, of which 3 monographs and 9 articles.

Martin Osikovski holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Sofia University, a master's degree in medieval studies from the Central European University in Budapest, a doctorate in history and theory of culture from Sofia University /2009/. As a researcher in the field of philosophy, Martin Osikovski has worked on several doctoral and post-doctoral programs at prestigious universities: as a visiting researcher and doctoral student at the Ruprecht Karl University of Heidelberg in July-October 2007, at Oriel College, Oxford in September 2007. - July 2008, as a guest lecturer since October 2005. until December 2005 at the Department of History at the University of Helsinki, as well as at the University of Lower Silesia in Poland.

The candidate for the position in the announced competition has solid teaching experience. During the period 2002-2009 is a teacher successively at "Zlatarski" High School, Technical University in Sofia and at "Britannica" Language Center. Since 2005 until now he is a part-time teacher of the FF of the SU. Since 2010 until 2018 is the main assistant at the Department of "Media and Public Communications" at University of National and World Economy. From August 2018 was elected associate professor at the same department of the University of National and World Economy.

### **Evaluation of scientific activity**

Assoc. Prof. Osikovsky's scientific interests are multifaceted, but according to their importance, they are concentrated in two main thematic circles: media and communication culture and culture of research work in the humanities and social science. The monograph "The Priest and the Seal" is also connected with the first thematic round, which was presented as a habilitation thesis by the candidate for participation in the competition. In my evaluation of the research achievements and contributions of the participant in the competition, I will focus on it as the main scientific work, especially since some other publications of the author are related to the researched topic. The topic of the monograph is extremely current and offers an interdisciplinary approach and object of research. The author explores various aspects of the correlation religion and media or faith and politics, as well as their reflections in society. Such a study is missing in the academic scientific community in Bulgaria, and English-language similar studies have a different methodology, therefore I consider that the work of my colleague Martin Osikovsky has a high scientific contribution in the researched field. The aim of the author of the study is to bring out the main messages of the religious news during the specified period by consistently and systematically tracing the different topos of faith expressed through the pages of the press. Contributory, in my opinion, is the way and methodology according to which Osikovsky manages to convey the presence of the topos of faith in the mainstream foreign media.

## **CONCLUSION**

After getting acquainted with the materials and scientific works presented in the competition, analyzing their significance I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment to the candidate in the competition. Therefore, I would like to recommend to the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Philosophy for election of Dr. Martin Osikovski at the academic position of ‘Associate Professor’ at the Sofia University in the field of higher education 3.1. Sociology, Anthropology and Culture Sciences (Research and Communication Culture in the Social Science and Humanities).

28.09.2022r.

Reviewer: .....

Associate Professor Dr. Stoyan Chilikov