

O P I N I O N

By Prof. Milena Hristova Stefanova, Dotor Habil

By competition for the occupation of an academic position "docent" in professional field 3.7. Administration and Management (Financial Analysis of Public Policies), Higher Education Area 3. Social, Economic and Legal Sciences and National Security

Announced by SU "St. Kliment Ohridski", SG No. 61/02.08.2022, for the needs of the "Public Administration" Department, Faculty of Philosophy

Basis for drawing up the opinion: order No. RD-38-490/22.08.2022 of the Rector of SU "St. Kliment Ohridski"

1. General notes

One candidate took part in the competition - Ch. Assistant Dr. Maria Georgieva Kotseva-Tikova. from SU "St. Kliment Ohridski".

Maria Kotseva has a Master's degree in Economics (Finance) from UNSS - Sofia, and since December 2005 she has a PhD in Economics. The doctoral degree was obtained at the Institute for Economic Studies at the BAS. The topic of the dissertation work is "Effectiveness of Investments in Renewable Energy Sources".

Since 2009, Dr. Kotseva has been a chief assistant at the Institute for Economic Studies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and since 2012 he has been a chief assistant at the Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Philosophy, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". The presented employment report of Dr. Kotseva shows that, as of 2022, she has more than the SU requirements for general and classroom teaching employment in academic courses that are on the subject of the competition: Public Finances, Tax System and Tax Policy, Green Economy and Microeconomics .

Dr. Kotseva has strong research skills, and her participation in numerous research projects shows a lasting commitment to the field of green economy. The research methods she applies are completely in line with the theme of the competition.

2. Fulfillment of the minimum national requirements for occupying the academic position "docent"

Ch. assistant professor Maria Kotseva-Tikova, PhD, presents a report on the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements, from which it is clear that she fully fulfills the required indicators for Area 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, 3.7. "Administration and management" according to the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. She has defended a dissertation for the award of the ONS "Doctor" and presented a habilitation thesis, which fulfills the required 150 points for indicators from groups A and B. For the indicators in group D, a list of articles and studies in Bulgarian and English is presented languages that form 210.92 points and the norm of 200 points is covered. Separation protocols are presented for co-authored publications. In group D, a reference is presented for the citations that form 55 points and fulfill the requirements of 50 points.

All this gives me the reason to move on to a substantive analysis of the habilitation work and publications submitted for participation in the competition.

3. Habilitation work and publications

For participation in the competition ch. Associate Professor Maria Kotseva, PhD, presents her habilitation thesis - monograph "On the path to sustainable development. The Green Alternative, University Publishing House "St. Kliment Ohridski", S., p. 198, ISBN: 978-954-07-5403-1, Sofia, 2022 and 24 more publications - articles and studies in Bulgarian and English languages, published in scientific collections and magazines. My check confirms the applicant's reference.

The subject area of the habilitation thesis-monograph fully corresponds to the theme of the competition. The requirement that the habilitation work has been published has been met. The submitted publications are also on the topic of the contest. No signs of plagiarism were noticed in Dr. Kotseva's publications. She is an erudite and fair researcher.

4. Scientific research activity and scientific contributions

I fully agree with the self-assessment of Maria Kotseva's scientific contributions. An in-depth approach to the researched issues is noticeable. Over the years, Dr. Kotseva has been

building and further developing her research in the field of sustainable development, inclusive development and the green economy. It is worth highlighting the following contributing points:

- Maria Kotseva enriches and develops the definition of sustainable development using her research on the practice of implementing new policies;
- The field research was conducted according to the author's original methodology and the results were used to evaluate new policies;
- The assessment of the social aspects of sustainability is based on an original author's methodology, which includes an index for social progress and is applied to assess the inclusive development of regions in Bulgaria;
- The theoretical and applied aspects of Maria Kotseva's research work can be used not only for academic but also for managerial purposes.

Conclusion

Ch. Assistant Professor Maria Georgieva Kotseva-Tikova, PhD, meets all the requirements of the ŽRASRB, the regulations for its implementation both in the country and at Sofia University. She has many years of experience and internship at SU "St. Kl. Ohridski", specialty "Public Administration". He is the author and holder of some of the lecture courses that are the subject of the current contest. The entire work of Dr. Maria Georgieva Kotseva-Tikova offers a comprehensive, systematic and in-depth analysis of achievements in the field of financial analysis of public policies. She has extensive research experience gained from her participation in numerous research projects.

As a result of the high evaluation of the scientific and teaching activities of Ch. assistant professor Dr. Maria Georgieva Kotseva-Tikova, I strongly support her election as associate professor in professional direction 3.7. Administration and Management (Financial Analysis of Public Policies) at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

11.11.2022

Member of the Scientific Jury:

Sofia

(Prof. Milena Stefanova, Docor Habil)