



POSITION

by Assoc. Prof. Vania Petrova Ivanova, Department of Economics, UNWE - Sofia
Scientific specialty "Political Economy (Microeconomics and Macroeconomics)"

Subject: Competition for "**Associate Professor**" in the professional field 3.8
Economics (Macroeconomic Analysis and Policies, International Macroeconomics / in Bulgarian and English/).

1. Competition information

The competition is named for the needs of the Department "Economics", Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, according to the decision of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Protocol № 06 of 25.06.2019, the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulation for the organization and conduct of competitions for acquiring degrees and for occupation of academic positions in the University of Sofia "Kliment Ohridski", and was published in the State Gazette, issue 52 of 07.02.2019.

I participate in the scientific jury of the competition as an external member in accordance with Order № RD-38-460 / 26.07.2019 of the Rector of the SU.

Two candidates participate in the competition. The assessment of the candidates for the occupation of the academic position "Assistant Professor" has been prepared according to the fulfilment of the conditions under Art. 53 and in accordance with the results of the inquiries under Art. 54, para. 1 for each candidate separately.

2. Brief information about the candidates in the competition

2.1 Dimitar Zlatinov holds a Bachelor's Degree in Macroeconomics from the University of Plovdiv "P.Hilendarski" and a Master's Degree from SU, in Statistics and Financial Econometrics. Since 2015 he has a PhD in Economics. He has held the positions of assistant and part-time assistant. Since 2016 till now, Zlatinov is a chief assistant at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration of Sofia University, a part-time assistant at Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences of the PU and in the Department of Economics of the University of National and World Economy, and since 2018 he is a chief assistant at the Economic Research Institute at BAS. The applicant's extensive professional experience as a lecturer and assistant at various universities is undoubtedly a proof of high professionalism, serious expertise and good research achievements. Along with his academic career, Dimitar Zlatinov has also participated in numerous research projects, which presents him as a serious scientist.

2.2 Pavel Stoynov holds a Master's degree in Business Management from Sofia University and a PhD in Economics from 2017. He holds also a PhD in Earth Sciences from 2015. He has held the position of assistant and part-time assistant since 2000 till today at SU "K.Ohridski" at the Faculty of Mathematics and the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration. The applicant's main interests are in statistics, econometrics, mathematical programming, tourism and finance. His main teaching involvement is with courses in statistics and probability theory.

3. Fulfilment of the requirements for occupation of the academic position

3.1. Compliance with the mandatory national minimum quantitative requirements for the academic post of Associate Professor

The candidate Dimitar Zlatinov fully fulfils the mandatory conditions laid down in Art. 26 of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and Art. 105 of the Rules of the Sofia University, because he:

- Has a PhD degree;
- Is author of a considerable number of scientific publications entirely on the topic of the competition, including also an independent monograph, reviewed by two scientific reviewers and the required number of citations;
- is working as assistant professor from 2016.

Chief Assistant Dr. Dimitar Zlatinov presents a scientific production and documents proving the formation of 520 points, in accordance with the approved national requirements for occupation of the academic position of "Assistant Professor".

3.2 Compliance with the mandatory national minimum quantitative requirements for the academic position of Associate Professor.

The candidate Pavel Stoynov only partially fulfils the mandatory conditions laid down in Art. 26 of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and Art. 105 of the Rules of the Sofia University, because he:

- Has a PhD degree;
- He is the author of 15 scientific publications entirely outside the theme of the competition, including also a monograph that is **NOT** peer reviewed by two scientific reviewers and does **NOT have the** required number of citations (15 points-3 citations, with a minimum of 50 points required);
- is working as assistant professor and later as chief assistant professor from 2000.

Due to the incomplete fulfilment of the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and non-compliance with the national minimum mandatory requirements by the candidate Pavel Stoynov, only the publications of the candidate Dimitar Zlatinov will be reviewed in this competition.

4. Assessment of educational and teaching activity

After winning a competition in 2010 in the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, chief assistant Zlatinov actively teaches second-level Macroeconomics and Macroeconomics courses, World Economy and Applied Macroeconomic Analysis. His employment is at Bachelor's and Master's degrees. The reference for the annual teaching employment of chief assistant Zlatinov for the last 4 academic years has shown an average of 460 hours per year at Bachelor Degree. Over the past three teaching years 23 % of the lectures are held in the "Master" degree. Not a few of them are in English. Over the years, the candidate has held various administrative positions in the department and the faculty.

My personal impressions of the applicant in the subjects of "International Economics" and "Macroeconomic Analysis" are extremely positive. Dimitar Zlatinov approaches responsibly and strives to constantly improve the educational content. He is a lecturer who covers a wide range of subjects related to Macroeconomics and International Economics, and his responsible attitude and commitment to working with students deserve very much appreciation.

Based on what has been said, it can be summarized that Chief Assistant Professor Dimitar Zlatinov is an established lecturer in the field of macroeconomics and international economics. The applicant's work experience at the Sofia University, in combination with teaching at other universities, speaks about the purposeful preparation for the position of academic assistant professor in 3.8 Economics - Macroeconomic Analysis and Policies, International Macroeconomics (in Bulgarian and English).

5. Brief description of the submitted scientific works / publications

For his participation in the competition Ch. Assistant Dr. Zlatinov presents 20 publications in specialized scientific editions and from prestigious publishers. Of these, 45 % are in English. The majority of the publications (75 %) are self-contained.

The submitted documents and publications give an idea of his active research and teaching activities in the years after he started working in his academic position "Chief assistant" in 2016. His active research and consulting work have allowed him to make a significant number of publications for this period. All of them are original scientific researches, entirely author's analyses and are strongly focused on the topic of the competition – Macroeconomic policies and International Economics.

The candidate participates in the competition with **20** publications, realized in specialized scientific editions. From them:

- one independent monograph and three collective monographs;
- 12 articles and studies, incl. two in SCOPUS indexed journals;
- 3 scientific papers at conferences in the country.

In addition, evidence is presented for participation in 5 research projects and co-author in a study tool on International Economics.

As a summary of the above, I can estimate that the presented and proven quantitative and qualitative indicators of the applicant's scientific production significantly exceed the approved requirements for occupying the academic position of associate professor, according to the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the additional requirements for SU.

In the candidate's creative work, the most important scientific area is related to macroeconomic analyses and macro- policies in crisis and imbalances.

In second place are publications on openness of the economy and opportunities for economic growth.

Then, are the publications related to the integration processes in Bulgaria, the convergence of the Bulgarian economy with that of the other EU countries.

The independent monographic work of Ch. Assistant Zlatinov is devoted to macro policy in Bulgaria after the introduction of the currency board. The three sections of the publication summarize the existing knowledge of this specific form of monetary policy, as well as the opportunities and mechanisms for implementing an active macroeconomic policy at national level. An econometric evaluation of certain relationships and dependencies between macroeconomic indicators has been made in accordance with the derived transmission mechanisms of fiscal and monetary policy.

In the submitted scientific papers and publications, the candidate works at current and significant issues related to the instruments for conducting a macro-policy, evaluating its effectiveness and forecasting its results. A good knowledge of the theoretical foundations and the development of the problems can be seen, the skills for reasoned analysis and for coming up with possible solutions.

An assessment of the quality of his scientific output can be made by citation very well. The attached reference shows 16 citations, incl. 1 citation of publications in a review that is indexed in Scopus.

6. Synthesized evaluation of major scientific and applied scientific contributions

The results of the applicant 's scientific and applied activity were obtained as a consequence of the publication of one independent and 3 collective publications, 12 articles in specialized journals, participation in 3 conferences in the country. The results are largely covered by the contributions of the author and it can be summarized as being mainly in macroeconomic analysis and macroeconomic policies, the international economy and the teaching of this issue.

The independent monograph of the candidate is entitled "*Macroeconomic policy in Bulgaria after the introduction of the currency board /from theoretical to the applied analysis /*", published in 2019. In this monograph are appropriately worked the essence, are justified the specifics of the study and conduct of macroeconomic policy in terms of the need to coordinate and prioritize its objectives; the time horizon and lags in the economy; the effects of monetary and exchange rate regime. The focus of the study is the applicability of standard macroeconomic policy instruments in Bulgaria and the assessment of their effectiveness and efficiency. Conclusions have been made about the channels of macroeconomic impact of fiscal and monetary policy and its opportunities to stimulate the country's catching-up development.

The presented papers of the candidate in the competition, and the overall results of his research and teaching activity allow to derive a number of positive results including contributions summarized in the following directions:

- *scientific contributions* related to the enrichment and further development of theoretical categories and methodological issues, which are reduced to systematization, extension and enrichment of theoretical knowledge about macro - equilibrium , macro -policies, openness of the economy and influence on national macro-policy, development of an approach for forecasting the export of net energy from Bulgaria, the use of certain indicators to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of macroeconomic policy is justified, the transition mechanism of the fiscal and monetary policy in the short and long term is modelled, taking into account the peculiarities of the currency board and the membership of Bulgaria in the EU.
- *scientific and applied contributions* - the macroeconomic effects of the global financial and economic crisis in Bulgaria are found and systematized, the validity of the hypothesis of the export-oriented economic growth in Bulgaria for 1999-2017 is tasted, an econometric estimation of the impact of changes in the development of Bulgaria's major trading partners on its economic development over a ten-year period is made.

7. Key critical notes and recommendations

I have the following recommendations for the applicant's educational and research activities:

- to increase its participation in international scientific forums and publications in foreign scientific specialized publications, thereby making its achievements in the chosen scientific field more visible;
- to engage himself in the preparation of full-time and part-time PhD students.

8. Conclusion

The evidence presented and the evaluations made of the applicant's scientific, teaching and research activities prove that he meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the criteria of the Faculty of Economics for the occupation of the academic position of "Associate Professor". All this allows me completely convinced to suggest to the honourable scientific jury to give **a positive assessment and propose to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of economics and Business Administration from SU "Kliment Ohridski" to select and confirm Ch. Assist. Prof. Dimitar Georgiev Zlatinov for the academic position "associate professor" by 3.8 "Economics "**(macroeconomic analysis and policy, international macroeconomics / in Bulgarian and English).

15.10.2019

Signature:

/ Assoc. Prof. Vania Ivanova /