

## POSITION PAPER

From: Prof. Dr. Margarita Nikolaeva Atanassova

Member of the Scientific Jury according

to Order No. RD 38-17 / 01/13/2020 of the Rector of Sofia University "Kl.Ohridski"

### 1. Information about the candidate

The only candidate in this competition is Chief Assistant. Prof. Milen Mitev Velushev, who since 2015 has been a lecturer at the Department of Economics, Faculty of Economics, Sofia University Kl. Ohridski. M.Sc.Velushev holds an ONS Doctorate, diploma № SU 2-16-15, ed.29.02.2016.

The information on the implementation of the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b of the Law on the Academic Staff Development in Republic of Bulgaria/LASDRB shows that by the main groups of indicators (A, C, D, E) for academic position, the associate professor M.V.Velushev's candidacy fully complies with the requirements laid down in the LASDRB

. Dr. Milen Velushev is a member of the Union of Economists in Bulgaria

### 2. Overview of the submitted publications

For the purpose of this competition, the candidate has submitted 10 scientific publications (part of the general list of 18 publications included in the procedure documentation), among which stand out the independent monographic study: "Analysis of the education market: features of the Bulgarian educational system", (2019) Academy of Economics "D. A. Tsenov. " Business World Library. Three studies (one of which is co-authored), four scientific articles and one scientific report were submitted for review.

The 2019 Monographic Survey ("Market Analysis of Education: Features of the Bulgarian Education System", DA Tsenov Academy of Economics. "Business World" Library) covers the results of independently conducted original research by the author aimed at demand and formulating appropriate solutions to improve both the quality of education services offered and the effectiveness of investment (including from the state and individuals) in education. In this regard, a number of analyzes, assessments and conclusions about the status and problems

of the primary and secondary education system are highlighted, emphasizing that the unpredictability and frequency of regulatory change affect the behavior of the stakeholders in the education process. On the basis of the conducted research it is argued that it is necessary to rethink the external assessment and revision of the educational content and to balance the weight of the studied subjects in the complex assessment for the assimilation of this content. It is highly appreciated that the methodology used to calculate the amount of state funding for education in public higher education institutions should be critically analyzed, as a result of which the main deficits of the basic coefficients are outlined and the potential negative consequences of their application are justified.

For the purposes of this Opinion, two articles stand out in addition to the monograph presented as rehabilitation work. In the article "Money for nothing? Analysis of the Financing of Education in Public Higher Education ", published in 2019 in the journal " Strategies of Educational and Scientific Policy "(referenced in WoS) Dr. M.Velushev presents the results of an analytical review of key regulatory and strategic documents regulating the higher education system, identifying a number of institutional problems and formulating proposals for future changes in the management and regulation of higher education institutions

In the article "Foreign Direct Investment - Do We Need a New Paradigm for Studying", published in 2016 in the journal "Governance and Sustainable Development", the research focus is on foreign direct investment and dualism in investor motives that relate to the dynamics of international production, monopoly profits and market concentration. The author focuses on the dualism that exists in assessing the effect of foreign direct investment on the economy of the host country.

The candidate presented information about 7 citations in scientific publications of other authors. In the documentation of this competition a reference is made to the indicators under Article 121, paragraph 2 of the Rules on the Terms and Conditions for Acquisition of Scientific Degrees and Academic Positions at Sofia University "Kl. Ohridski" related to the educational activity and research activity. The information provided confirms that Chief Assistant. Milen Velushev is actively involved in the formation and introduction of the course "Economic Analysis of Law" at the Master's Degree Program, which is aimed at learning about economic instruments for analyzing legislation and its implementation.

### 3. . Evaluation of research contributions

I accept the systematized by the candidate scientific and applied contributions and for the purposes of this opinion, the following should be highlighted:

► Functional specifics of the needs of the institutions involved in the educational process are analyzed and presented as a basis for defining key factors in the educational system and its regulation, in connection with which a new model of the compulsory education market with an emphasis on quality management of education was designed.

► Key aspects of the relationship between FDI and national competitiveness of Bulgaria have been studied and identified, on the basis of which the significance of the assumption that dividing the FDI inflow into tradable and non-traded ones has analytical value clarifying the role of foreign direct investment in improving the competitive position of the Bulgarian economy.

► Analytical conclusions from testing a specific model corresponding to the peculiarities of the Bulgarian economy as a host country for foreign direct investment are systematized and presented, with conclusions about the dynamics of the relationship between the incoming FDI growth and the GDP growth and recommendations for conducting the country's foreign direct investment policy.

### 3. Critical notes and recommendations

In the context of the future academic development of Chief Assistant M.Velushev would recommend that he intensify his participation in research projects as a significant opportunity to promote the achieved scientific results among a wide range of representatives of science and practice.

### 4. Conclusion

Based on the above analysis and assessments I declare my positive opinion "for" and with complete confidence vote Chief Assistant Milen Velushev to be elected to the academic position of Associate Professor, professional field 3.8 "Economics", (Socioeconomics, Economic Analysis of Law) at Sofia University Kl. Ohridski.

Member of the Scientific Jury:

(Prof.Margarita Atanassova, Ph.D.)