



S T A T E M E N T

From: Professor Milanka Dimitrova Slavova, PhD
Scientific field „World Economy and International Economic Relations”,
UNWE

Regarding: Competition for the academic position of Professor in the professional field
3.8. Economics (Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, and International
economics - in Bulgarian and French), Sofia University, “St. Kliment
Ohridski”

1. Information about the competition

The competition has been announced for the needs of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski". It was announced in State Journal No. 30 of April 15, 2022. I participate in the scientific jury by virtue of Order RD 38- 272/06.06.2022, issued by the Rector of the Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski.

2. Brief information about the candidates in the competition

One candidate participates in the competition - Associate Professor Dr. Vanya Petrova Ivanova. She has many years of experience as a researcher and teacher. She graduated with a degree in "Political Economy" in 1986 at Karl Marx Institute of Economics. She obtained her doctorate in 1997 as a doctoral student in the Department of Economics, UNSS after completing a second master's degree in "European Economic Integration" at the University of Nancy-II, Nancy, France. In 2006, she habilitated as an associate professor at the Department of Economics, UNSS, where she continues to teach.

3. Fulfillment of the requirements for occupying the academic position

In accordance with the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (art. 2b) and the Regulations for its application (art. 1a, para. 1) and art. 115 (1) of the Regulations on the conditions and procedures for acquiring scientific degrees and occupying academic positions at SU "St. . Kliment Ohridski" Assoc. Prof. Vanya Ivanova fulfills the requirements for the occupation of the academic position "Professor" She meets the minimum national requirements and the additional requirements of SU "St. Kliment Ohridski". Assoc. Professor Ivanova holds the educational and scientific degree "Doctor", she held the academic position of associate professor at UNWE and in other higher schools in the country for 16 years, including as a part-time teacher at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski".

For her participation in the competition, Associate Professor Ivanova presented a published monographic work in the field of the competition, which does not repeat the publications on the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "doctor" and on the occupation of the academic position "associate professor". Her independent monograph "The circular economy - between the necessary and the possible, ed. Avangard-Prima, Sofia 2022, 250 pages ISBN 987-619-239-686-2 is distinguished by the author's research related to the acquisition of a doctoral degree (in the field of European monetary union) and publications on the development of European economic integration, world economy, foreign trade of Bulgaria, etc., with which she participated in the competition for associate professor. The two monographs (the one presented as the main habilitation thesis and the second one, which was not presented as the main habilitation thesis), the articles, studies and scientific reports with which she participated in the competition, demonstrate solid research work and scientific and applied results in the field of ecological transformation and sustainable development.

In the competition for professor, she has presented six more studies - one in Bulgarian and five in a foreign language, nine articles - eight in a foreign language and one in Bulgarian, 4 book chapters in Bulgarian and one in a foreign language, ten reports, half of which are in a foreign language, four textbooks and four study guides in Bulgarian. With the presented publications, Associate Professor Vanya Ivanova meets or exceeds the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position of "professor" in five of the six groups of indicators. In group A the number of points is 50, in group C - 100, in group D - 470, in

group D - 610 and in group E - 200.6. Assoc. Dr. Ivanova has one successfully defended doctoral student. The total number of points for the six indicators groups is 1430.6.

4. Assessment of teaching and learning activities

Associate Prof. Vanya Ivanova has gained considerable teaching experience in Bulgarian and foreign state and private universities. She conducts courses in Bulgarian and French in the disciplines of microeconomics, macroeconomics, world economy, international financial markets, EU economy, etc.

She specialized and taught at European universities. As the former head of the Department of International Economic Relations and Business at UNWE, I can share my excellent impressions of her work in the undergraduate World Economy course jointly run by both departments and her dedicated support for the development of young researchers and teachers in the discipline.

Associate Prof. Ivanova also has considerable experience in the management of the educational process as head of a major in Economics and deputy dean for academic activities of the Faculty of Economics of UNWE.

The long-term teaching and research activity is a prerequisite for her participation in the successful preparation and implementation of national and international educational and research projects.

All of the above gives me reason to assert that Assoc Professor Vanya Ivanova has the necessary teaching experience and a high degree of preparation for the occupation of the academic position of "professor" under the current competition.

5. Brief description of the presented scientific works/publications

The main direction in the publications submitted for participation in the competition is the

development of the ecological transformation, the characteristics of the new socio-ecological model and the need for new policies at the state and company level to achieve competitiveness at the macro- and micro-level. In this area are the independent monographic work (1), the collective monograph (2), articles 9 and 11 and publication 17. Associate Professor Vanya Ivanova justified the development of the circular economy as an element of the green transformation in Bulgaria, defined its conceptual framework along the value chain, the institutional environment that supports its establishment and the possible indicators for measuring macroeconomic changes and comparative studies of changes in other countries (publications 1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 24, 32).

The publications also present specific problem areas of the circular economy such as the reform of the education system in order to prepare a qualified workforce for the "green economy", the promotion of "green innovation", the support of entrepreneurship and the implementation of fiscal reform in favor of green transformation (publ. 1, 2, 5, 15, 16, 19, 21, 23, 26).

As a continuation of previous scientific research and in connection with the changing models of socio-economic development, publications are presented that update the research on the trends and potential conflicts in joining the European Banking Union and various aspects of impact on the banking system of Bulgaria (publications 18 and 22).

In terms of textbooks and study guides, Associate Professor Vanya Ivanova updates and supports the learning process through publications in the fields of general economic theory and the world economy.

The most important scientific and scientific-applied results obtained from the research activity of Assoc. Professor Vanya Ivanova are related to: (1) the argumentation of the need for a new model of economic development of the country; (2) the definition of the concept of the circular economy as part of the green economy and the sustainable development; (3) the systematization of specific measures for its development; 4() the determination of adequate

indicators for the measurement of the transformation and the implementation of a comparative analysis over time and between different economies.

6. Evaluation of the main scientific contributions

The candidate in the competition - Associate Professor Dr. Vanya Ivanova - correctly structured and summarized the scientific achievements of her research activity. They can be defined in several areas:

- Supplementing the existing theory and methodology that increase their validity. To this are can be referred the following achievements of her studies: the justification of the need for the transition of the economies, including the Bulgarian one towards a new model of ecological transformation with tactical and strategic goals; the concept of the implementation of the circular economy along the entire value chain; the creation of an institutional framework in accordance with the necessary changes.
- Application of existing theory or methodology to explain and analyze specific economic tasks. This area includes proposals for macroeconomic measures, the promotion of environmental solutions at firm level, the development of indicators to measure progress and benchmarking.

7. Main critical remarks and recommendations

I would recommend Associate Professor Vanya Ivanova to continue her research in the field of sustainable development and eco-transformation of Bulgaria. The topic is undeniably modern, with changing priorities as a result of the dynamic and difficult to predict environment. I believe that increasing her number of publications in refereed foreign journals is a completely achievable goal.

8. Conclusion

Associate Professor Vanya Petrova Ivanova meets the minimum national requirements and

the additional requirements of SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" for occupying the academic position of "professor". The candidate's scientific output contains scientific contributions to the theory of the circular economy and scientific-applied contributions to specific initiatives at the macro and micro level. The research activity of Assoc. professor Vanya Ivanova also enriches her teaching activity.

All of the above give me reason to strongly support Associate Professor Vanya Petrova Ivanova being elected to the academic position of "professor" at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski".

August 12, 2022
Sofia

Signature: