



OPINION

on a competition for the occupation of the academic position "Professor" under Professional direction 3.4. "Social Activities", scientific discipline "Social Policy and Political Science", announced in the SG. no. 29/31/03/2023

with candidate: Toshko Hristov Petrov, Assoc. Professor, Doctor of Science

Member of the scientific jury: Lachezar Dimitrov Avramov, Assoc. Professor, Ph.D

1. General characteristics of the candidate's research and applied scientific activity.

Since 1985, Assoc. Ph.D. Toshko Hristov Petrov successfully passed through all academic positions - from Assistant to Associate Professor. He acquired the academic position of "Docent" in 2001 at VVMU "N.Y. Vaptsarov", and since 2003 he has been an associate professor at TU-Varna. He defended his doctoral dissertation in 1997, as well as a dissertation for obtaining the scientific degree " Doctor of Science" in 2013.

He participated in two national scientific projects in the period 2014-2020. He is an active participant in the projects financed by the "Scientific Research" Fund of TU-Varna, having been the head of 6 projects.

Prof. Petrov participated in the competition with a habilitation thesis - a monograph from 2022 and 27 articles in scientific journals and scientific reports at scientific conferences. Three of these reports were published in English. The submitted papers were not used by the candidate, Prof. Petrov, in other competitions. Their volume meets the requirements of ZRASB. Correct separation protocols are provided for co-authored publications.

The works presented by the candidate also have scientific and applied value - regarding electoral behavior, game modeling, voting technology.

2. Evaluation of the pedagogical preparation and activity of the candidate.

Prof. Petrov's experience in higher education is almost 40 years, and he has switched to a basic employment contract at VVMU "N.Y. Vaptsarov" and at TU-Varna under full regulations. Since the summer of 1985, we have been working together with Prof. Petrov, and this is why my assessment of his pedagogical activity is entirely positive.

The candidate has taught in bachelor's and master's programs in various specialties at VVMU and TU. He actively participates in the Erasmus and Erasmus+ forms, because he has a perfect command of the Spanish language and has been a guest lecturer in Spain and France.

He supervised five doctoral students in the department's doctoral program and has two successfully defended doctoral students.

At TU-Varna, he was repeatedly elected as the Head of the Social and Legal Sciences Department, a member of the Academic Council, as well as Deputy, Rector for term 2015-2019.

He conducts his assigned classes with students of OCS "Bachelor", OCS "Master" and doctoral students at a high level. He is the author of three textbooks.

There are significant contributions in organizing and leading the process of the accreditation process of specialties both at the departmental and university level.

3. Basic scientific and scientific-applied contributions.

Scientific and scientific-applied contributions - personal work of the candidate:

- The use of Game Theory tools in different situations from political and social reality;
- Theoretical foundations of the electoral behavior of Bulgarian voters; theory of electoral systems and a project for a new electoral system;

- Definition of four types of voting – goal-rational, value-rational, emotional-affective and traditional. 3 main scales have been developed for realizing the political choice - ideological, value and situational;
 - Developing the problems of the effectiveness of social services, as well as methods that can be used for its measurement and evaluation. Use of the DEA method and expert methods for evaluating the effectiveness of social services;
 - Elaboration of the problems of the quality and standardization of social services, as well as guidelines for improving the current system for the standardization of social services in our country;
 - On the basis of data from sociological surveys, a system of mathematically bound multifactorial regression models was developed, with the help of which the main factors having a significant influence on the electoral choice of Bulgarian voters can be determined;
- Citations of the candidate's scientific works are 42.

4. Significance of contributions for science and practice.

The results of the scientific and scientific-applied contributions are implemented in the education of bachelor and master students in the specialty "Social Management" of professional direction 3.4. "Social activities", as well as in the training of doctoral students in the doctoral program of the department, created and realized thanks to the active activity of the candidate.

The presented publications and activity fully correspond to the scientometric requirements.

5. Critical notes and recommendations.

I have no critical comments, but only one recommendation – activation of the publication activity in refereed editions of the international database

CONCLUSION

The presented scientific works and textbooks fully satisfy the legal minimum requirements for awarding the **academic position "Professor"**.

Scientific and scientific-applied contributions meet the high basic requirements.

I have not found any plagiarism in the presented scientific works.

Based on the acquaintance with the presented scientific works, their significance, the scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions contained in them, I find it reasonable to propose Assoc. Professor Doctor of Science Toshko Hristov Petrov to occupy the academic position "Professor" in the professional direction 3.4. "Social Activities" in the specialty "Social Policy and Political Science".

Date: 28.06.2023

MEMBER OF THE JURY:
Assoc. Prof.

**Заличена информация
по Регламент (ЕС)
2016/679**