

STATEMENT

regarding a competition for taking the Academic position "Professor" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional field 3.4. Social activities, scientific specialty "Social policy and political science", announced in SG No. 29 of 31.03.2023

with a candidate Associate Professor Dr.Sc. Toshko Hristov Petrov

Scientific jury member: Professor Svetlana Raycheva Dimitrakieva, PhD

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

Associate Professor Dr.Sc. Toshko Hristov Petrov participates as the only candidate in the announced competition for the academic position of professor.

He has a doctorate in "Political Science" since 1996. In 2013 he became a doctor of sciences in the professional field 3.3. "Political sciences", specialty "Organization and management outside the material production area (Foreign policy)".

For his participation in the competition he presented 32 scientific papers, as follows:

- 1 monograph (V3)
- 1 book published on the basis of a defended dissertation for awarding a scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences" (G5)
- 1 scientific publication in refereed and indexed databases (G6)
- 26 scientific publications in a non-refereed journal with scientific review or revised collective volumes (G7.1 – G7.26)
- 1 textbook
- 2 teaching aids

I do not accept for review the publication G5.

A detailed reference is presented on the compliance with the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position "Professor" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional field 3.4. Social activities.

The candidate has submitted a Declaration of originality and non-existence of plagiarism proven in accordance with the law, as well as a Declaration that with regard to the compliance with the minimum national

requirements according to Art. 2b of the Act on Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic Bulgaria the presented scientific papers do not repeat the evidences (publications, etc.) according to the various indicators for obtaining the educational scientific degree "Doctor", scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences" and for holding previous academic positions. I trust the information submitted by the candidate.

The analysis of the submitted scientific papers and documents provide grounds to summarize that the scientific works of Associate Professor Dr.Sc. Toshko Hristov Petrov complies with the scientometrics requirements and regulations.

Thematically, the results of the research and applied scientific activity of Associate Professor Dr.Sc. Toshko Hristov Petrov, stated in the scientific publications, can be grouped into the following areas:

- Electoral systems, methodology of electoral systems, comparative electoral systems (publications I 1, III11, III12, III14, III 15 from the List of publications)
- Application of quantitative and expert methods and optimization models in the political analysis (publications III 4, III 7, III 8, III 26)
- Situational political research (publications III 5, III 6, III 9, III10)
- Electoral behavior, electoral communities, modeling of electoral behavior (Publication II 2)
- Social policy, sectoral social policy (publications I 2, I 3, III 1)
- Effectiveness of social services, methods of measuring the effectiveness (publications III 20, III 21, III 22, III 24)
- Standardization for quality of social services, systems for standardization of social services, improvement of the current system of social services (publications III 16, III 17, III 18, III 19, III 22)
- Study of the labor market and conditions for employment of specific risk target groups (publication III 20)

Associate Professor Dr.Sc. Toshko Hristov Petrov has been a leader of eight scientific projects, financed by the National Institute of Scientific Research through Technical University - Varna, and a functional expert under project B605M20P001-2.002-0001 "Student practices - phase 1" and an expert in administrative activities under project B605M20P001-2.003 " Student Scholarships – Phase 1'.

He has also been a reviewer of dissertations and scientific research projects.

In summary, the scientific research and scientific applied activities of Associate Professor D.Sc. Toshko Hristov Petrov deal with topical problem areas for the science and practice and can be evaluated positively.

2. Assessment of the candidate's teaching experience and activity.

Associate Professor Dr.Sc. Toshko Hristov Petrov has thorough teaching experience:

- In the period 1985-2001 he has been successively an assistant, a senior assistant, a chief assistant and an associate professor in the Department of Social Sciences at the Nikola Vaptsarov Naval Academy- Varna;
- Since 2003 until now he is an associate professor in the Department of Social and Legal Sciences (former Law Faculty), Technical University of Varna;

Head of Department in the periods: 2007-2011, 2011-2015, 2019 - to date.

During the period 2015-2019 he was a Deputy/Rector of Accreditation and Public Relations and in the period 2019-2022 – a Director of the Directorate "Accreditation and Rating System".

The reference submitted on his teaching activity for the period 2018-2022 shows over-implementation of the relevant standard of tutoring hours.

The main academic disciplines taught by Associate Professor Dr.Sc. Toshko Hristov Petrov include Political Science, Organization and Management of Social Activities, Social Policy, Fundamentals of Social Work, Social Work with the Poor, Unemployed and Homeless Persons, etc.

Associate Professor Dr.Sc. Toshko Hristov Petrov participates in the competition with 1 textbook and 2 study aids. For the last 5 years he has been a supervisor of over 40 graduates.

In 2019 he conducted a specialization under the Erasmus program at the University of Las Palmas de Grant Canaria, Spain.

The candidate creates his school of doctoral students and young scientists. In the period 2020-2023 he has four successfully defended doctoral students, one of whom, Krasimira Pavlova Georgieva, is a chief assistant at the Social and Legal Sciences Department, Technical University of Varna.

Associate Professor Dr.Sc. Toshko Hristov Petrov was a reviewer of study documentation for the Social Entrepreneurship specialty, Master's degree, developed by the Department of Management and Social Activities of Angel Kanchev University of Ruse.

In view of the above, I give a positive assessment of the candidate's academic activity. It corresponds to the level of the requested academic position.

3. Main scientific and applied scientific contributions

In the scientific and research work of Associate Professor Dr.Sc. Toshko Hristov Petrov the required contributions are established, which are identified and presented in the relevant reference, divided into three groups: scientific, applied scientific and methodical principles.

I accept the defined contributions with the additional explanation that some of them can be combined and refined.

Most of the contributions refer to:

- Proving with new means essential new aspects of already existing scientific fields, problems, theories, hypotheses. Obtaining corroborative facts
- Creation of new structures and technologies. Obtaining corroborative facts

The contributions from the third group prove that the candidate also develops himself in the field of teaching and pedagogy, which establishes him as an authoritative university lecturer.

4. Significance of the contributions to the science and practice

Based on the candidate's publications, I accept his contributions as real. The existing knowledge has been enriched and the methodology in the field of the competition has been further developed.

5. Critical remarks and recommendations

I am of the opinion that in view of the author's knowledge, experience and management practice, he should significantly expand his consultancy activity.

6. Conclusion

After I have reviewed the submitted scientific papers and the contributions contained therein, as well as the teaching activity of the candidate, I propose to the Scientific Jury to award to Associate Professor Dr.Sc. Toshko Hristov Petrov the Academic Position of Professor in the professional field 3.4. Social Activities, scientific specialty Social Policy and Political Science.

Date: 29.06.2023

Scientific jury member
/Professor Sv.Dimit

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