

STATEMENT OF OPINION

by **Rositsa Zhelyazkova Doneva, PhD**, Professor at University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski"
on the materials, submitted for participation in the competition
for taking the academic position of '**Professor**'
at **Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski"**

in the higher education area 'Technical Sciences', professional field 5.2 Electric Power Engineering, Electronics and Automation (Automated Information Processing and Control Systems)

1. General presentation of the submitted materials

In the competition for the academic position „Professor”, announced in State Gazette, issue 40 of 14th May 2021 and on the website of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" for the needs of the Department of Electronics, Communications and Information Technology at the Faculty of Physics and technology as the only candidate participates Associate Professor Dipl. Eng. Rumen Kostadinov Popov, PhD.

By order No. P33-4298 of 10th August 2021 of the Rector of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski", I was appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury of the competition for taking the academic position 'Professor' at PU in the higher education area 'Technical Sciences', professional field 5.2 'Electric Power Engineering, Electronics and Automation', announced for the needs of the Department of Electronics, Communications and Information Technology at the Faculty of Physics and technology.

The set of documents for the competition and materials included in it, presented by Assoc. Prof. Rumen Popov meet the requirements of the Act on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, Regulations on the Implementation of the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act and the relevant Rules of PU.

Assoc. Prof. Rumen Kostadinov Popov, PhD was born in 1964. In 1982 graduated from the Technical School of Electrical Engineering in Plovdiv. He received a master's degree in 1990. at the University of Tula, Russia, majoring in "Automatic Control Systems. Since 1991 until 2011 works as a lecturer at the Technical University - Sofia, Plovdiv branch. He obtained his doctoral degree in 2008. at the University of Ruse "Angel Kanchev". In 2011 holds the position of "Associate Professor" at the Technical University - Sofia, Plovdiv branch in the higher education area 'Technical Sciences', professional field 5.2 Electric Power Engineering, Electronics and Automation (Automated Information Processing and Control Systems). From 2012 to 2013 he also was an associate professor at the European Polytechnic University - Pernik, majoring in "Measuring Equipment". Since

2015 he has been working as an associate professor at Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski". I believe that the professional biography of Assoc. Prof. Rumen Kostadinov Popov, PhD fully complies with the requirements of the announced competition.

2. Description of scientific works

The participant in the competition has submitted 34 publications, of which: 10 on indicator B4 (indexed in Web of Science and Scopus); 10 by indicator Г7 (indexed in Web of Science and Scopus) and 14 by indicator Г8 (in unreferenced journals with scientific review or in edited collective volumes). All but 3 publications are in English and all are collective. In most of the articles Assoc. Prof. Popov is the first or second author, which does not raise doubts about his authorship. Impressive is the large number of publications with the participation of students and doctoral students (18). The materials for the competition present detailed data on the citations of only one publication "Thermo-physical characterization of some paraffins used as phase change materials for thermal energy storage" (43 cites, of which 35 in the Web of Science and / or Scopus). This many times exceeds the minimum national and faculty requirements. It is stated that only the publications from group B4 have over 120 citations.

Data for participation in a total of 9 research projects (5 international and 4 national) are presented, of which he is the leader of two (one international and one national). Assoc. Prof. Popov is a member of the "Union of Automation and Informatics" and the "Bulgarian Geothermal Association". The high results achieved by the candidate in his research activity are most clearly expressed in his publications. It makes a good impression that the results of the research activity of to. Popov are applied in the practical training of students through the creation of the laboratory base of the Department of ECIT and the Faculty of Physics and Technology.

The criteria for holding the academic position of "professor" in all indicators of the minimum national and faculty requirements are met.

3. Teaching work

The report on classroom and extracurricular employment, presented by the candidate shows that he (only in the Faculty of Physics and Technology of PU) has given lectures and exercises in 14 disciplines, has led 11 successfully defended the graduate. There are two PhD defenders and three others are in the process of writing their dissertations. He has developed lecture courses in the disciplines he teaches and has participated in the creation of numerous curricula for various specialties. He has taught three lecture courses in English at the Technical University of Sofia, Plovdiv branch. Assoc. Prof. Popov has given 40-hour lecture courses in English at KazNu, Almaty - Kazakhstan. All conducted lecture courses fall within the scope of the announced competition. The can-

didate has a paper textbook and two textbooks (one in English) issued on paper. An electronic edition manual - video exercises in the discipline "Sensors and actuators" have been published.

These circumstances give me reason to appreciate the educational and pedagogical activities of Assoc. Prof. Rumen Kostadinov Popov, PhD.

4. Contributions

The studies of Assoc. Prof. Rumen Popov are related to modern areas in the field of the announced competition, such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, methods and tools applicable in engineering education, etc.

The contributions in the presented publications can be defined as scientific, scientific-applied and applied. I have no doubts about the personal input of the candidate for receiving the results.

After getting acquainted in detail with the presented materials, I acknowledge all the scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions requested by the candidate. I believe that they are quite sufficient for the academic position of "professor".

5. Personal impressions, critical remarks and recommendations

I have known Assoc. Prof. Popov for more than several years and I have many positive impressions as an active colleague with lasting research interests and as a lecturer who cares about students. I do not have any critical remarks or recommendations on the materials provided to me for this opinion.

CONCLUSION

The documents and works submitted by the candidate give me grounds to conclude that all the requirements of ZRASRB, the regulations to it and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of PU, "Paisii Hilendarski" **are met**. By all criteria, the indicators are significantly exceeded. All this gives me a reason **to propose** to the scientific jury and the faculty council of the Faculty of Physics and Technology, Assoc. Prof. Rumen Kostadinov Popov, PhD **to take the academic position** of "Professor" in the higher education area "Technical Sciences", professional field 5.2 Electric Power Engineering, Electronics and Automation (Automated Information Processing and Control Systems) at the University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski".

30 September 2021

Prepared the opinion:

(Prof. Rositsa Doneva, PhD)