

OPINION

by **Margarita Lyubenova Ruseva, PhD, Associate Professor at Plovdiv University Paisii Hilendarski**

on the materials submitted for participation in the competition
for the academic position of **'Associate Professor'**
at Plovdiv University Paisii Hilendarski

in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences

professional field 3.8. Economics (Political Economy - Macroeconomics, Macroeconomic Analysis and Policies)

By order No. P33-3127 of 12.07.2021 of the Rector of Plovdiv University Paisii Hilendarski (PU) I was appointed a member of the scientific jury in a competition for the academic position of **'associate professor' at PU** in: field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences; professional field 3.8. Economics (Political Economy - Macroeconomics, Macroeconomic Analysis and Policies), announced for the needs of the Department of Economics at the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences.

In the competition for 'associate professor', announced in the State Gazette, issue 40 of 14.05.2021 and on the website of Plovdiv University Paisii Hilendarski for the needs of the Department of Economics at the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences the only candidate who has submitted documents is Chief Assistant Professor Dobrinka Ivanova Stoyanova, PhD, from the same department of the university.

The set of materials on paper and magnetic media presented by Chief Assistant Professor Dobrinka Ivanova Stoyanova, PhD is in accordance with the Regulations on the development of the academic staff of PU (RDASPU) and includes the following well-formulated documents: Application form to the university rector for admission to the competition; Curriculum vitae in European format; Diploma for Master's degree; Diploma for Educational and Scientific Degree "Doctor"; List of scientific papers; Annotations of the materials under Article 65. (3) of RDASPU, incl. Self-assessment of the candidate's contributions; Certificate of work experience; Documents for the academic work of the candidate; Research documents; Information on classroom and extracurricular workload; Information on individual scientometric indicators and their compliance with the minimum national and additional faculty requirements; Declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents.

For participation in the competition Chief Assistant Professor Dobrinka Ivanova Stoyanova, PhD presented 17 scientific papers; list of 8 research projects and 1 educational project; 3 curricula of disciplines, one of which is in a foreign language; 2 reviews, one of which is on an article in an international journal, and one review of a diploma thesis for the acquisition of a Master's degree in Economic Modelling and Business Analysis.

1. General presentation of the procedure and the candidate

Of the 23 scientific papers presented in the list of publications and other scientific and applied works by Dobrinka Stoyanova, PhD, 17 scientific papers are accepted for review, which have not been used for the doctoral dissertation, and the competition for the academic position of "chief assistant professor", namely: *an independent monograph (thesis for achievement of academic rank); two collective monographs; one chapter of a collective monograph; one published book based on the doctoral dissertation, seven research articles, four research reports, and one textbook*. The final evaluation also takes into account the candidate's participation in 8 research projects and one educational project. The announced 4 scientific papers, which refer to the procedure for acquiring educational and scientific degree "Doctor" and 2 scientific papers on the procedure for holding the academic position "Chief Assistant Professor", have not been reviewed.

During the period 2005–2009, Chief Assistant Professor Dobrinka Ivanova Stoyanova, PhD acquired a Bachelor's degree in International Economic Relations at the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences at Plovdiv University Paisii Hilendarski, and in 2010, again at FESS, she acquired a Master's degree in International Economic Relations, specialty *International Trade*. Dobrinka Stoyanova continues her studies in the Doctoral Program in Political Economy at the Department of Economics and Political Sciences of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, and in 2016 she successfully defended her dissertation on: „*Macroeconomic analysis of youth unemployment and policies for overcoming it* “.

Since September 2016, he has held the academic position of ‘Assistant Professor’, and since September 2017 the academic position of ‘Chief Assistant Professor’ at the FESS of PU P. Hilendarski. Dobrinka Stoyanova, PhD has administrative experience as Scientific Secretary of the Department of Economic Sciences from 2016 to the present. Chief Assistant Professor Stoyanova, PhD is also a member of the Faculty Council of the FESS.

Chief Assistant Professor Dobrinka Stoyanova, PhD speaks two foreign languages (German and English). She has excellent computer skills - works seamlessly with Microsoft Office/Word, Excel, Power Point /; Internet databases; SPSS. She is a member of the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria. She has a sense of belonging and empathy for the scientific community, which makes her

responsible in her research and practical work. She has the necessary knowledge, skills and scientific and applied competencies, which she skilfully uses in her teaching work.

2. General description of the candidate's work

As a full-time lecturer at the FESS in the period September 2016 - August 2021, Dobrinka Stoyanova, PhD has given lectures and exercises in the following subjects: (1) *Macroeconomics*; (2) *Macroeconomics II level*; (3) *Economics*; (4) *Economics of tourism*. It is worth noting that Chief Assistant Professor Dobrinka Stoyanova, PhD has independently developed detailed curricula, lectures and exercises in *Economics* and *Institutional Economics*, as well as the implemented mobility under the Erasmus + program at the Faculty of Management, Economics and Statistics of the University of Vienna in May 2019.

The structure of the scientific works of Dobrinka Stoyanova, PhD can be summarized as follows:

(1) She is an independent author of a monograph, which has the character of a thesis for the achievement of an academic rank: "*Macroeconomics and the labour market in the conditions of a currency board*".

(2) She is the author of a book based on a defended dissertation for the award of Educational and scientific degree „Doctor“: „*Macroeconomic analysis of youth unemployment and policies for overcoming it*“.

(3) She is a co-author of two collective monographs: „*Social Cohesion (National, Regional and Structural Dimensions in the Context of Bulgaria-EU-Western Balkans)*“ and “*The Impact of Globalization on the Nature of Jobs and Employment*“.

(4) She is the co-author of a chapter in the collective monograph "*European integration today - some problems and opportunities*".

(5) She is the co-author of a textbook: „*Textbook of Economics*“.

(6) Scientific articles - 7.

(7) Scientific reports - 4.

Of the 17 scientific papers submitted for review, 7 are in English and 10 are in Bulgarian.

The scientific texts with which Chief Assistant Professor Dobrinka Ivanova Stoyanova, PhD participates in the competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor", are distinguished by: relevance of the developed problems; with a wide variety of research approaches used; they demonstrate professional competence; highlight the in-depth scientific interests of the candidate in the field of the competition, which is a prerequisite for successful development of the respective field at the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences of Plovdiv University.

The obtained results, the research and research-applied contributions in the presented publications, which are distinguished by the emphasized topicality of the researched problems, can be grouped in the following areas:

1) The theoretical concepts of the currency board and the analysis of the empirical results for the Bulgarian economy are comprehensively considered, as specific manifestations of the currency board are derived, which have not been sufficiently studied so far.

2) An assessment of the relationship between macroeconomic imbalances and economic growth in Bulgaria has been made and presented, which as an open economy is experiencing the effects of the strong foreign economic and foreign policy changes in globalized economic relations.

3) A comprehensive analysis of the concepts of social cohesion and the tools for its study are presented, which reveals the bipolar function of social cohesion - as an independent and effective variable.

4) The influence of globalization on the labour market is studied by presenting and interpreting the different aspects and mechanisms of the studied relationship - globalization/innovation and employment. The different answers of the economic schools about the effects of innovations on employment are presented.

I support the contributions indicated by the candidate in the report submitted by her. They are mostly focused on systematization and enrichment of existing knowledge, research and systematization of empirical material, on the basis of which trends and problems are derived. The overall review of the production submitted for review by Chief Assistant Professor Dobrinka Ivanova Stoyanova PhD creates the image of a purposeful researcher who competently complements a number of theoretical and practical-applied aspects in the field of macroeconomic analysis.

In parallel with the research and teaching activities, Stoyanova, PhD actively participates in various research and educational projects. So far she has been involved in 9 projects: *two* international; *three* national and *three* universities.

Dobrinka Stoyanova is also actively involved in the organization of scientific conferences, seminars, and workshops within the FESS.

3. Critical remarks and recommendations

I have no significant critical remarks on the teaching and research work of Dobrinka Stoyanova, PhD. I would like to allow myself only one recommendation for her future scientific, practical-applied and teaching work, namely - to focus her efforts on more independent publications in English, and in sources referred in Scopus and Web of Science. Participation in international conferences can be oriented primarily to such forums, which focus on the application of modern macroeconomic theory and comparative analysis.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials submitted by Chief Assistant Professor Dobrinka Ivanova Stoyanova, PhD **meet all** the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act of Republic of Bulgaria (ASDARB), the Regulations for application of ASDARB, and the respective Regulations of PU Paisii Hilendarski.

The candidate in the competition has submitted a **sufficient** number of scientific papers published after the materials used in the defence of Educational and scientific degree 'Doctor'. The works of Chief Assistant Professor Dobrinka Ivanova Stoyanova, PhD contain original scientific, scientific-applied and applied contribution. Her theoretical works have practical applicability, as some of them are directly focused on the educational and teaching work. The scientific and teaching qualification of Dobrinka Ivanova Stoyanova, PhD is undoubted.

The results achieved by Chief Assistant Professor Dobrinka Ivanova Stoyanova, PhD in teaching and research **fully** comply with the specific requirements of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, adopted in connection with the Regulations of Plovdiv University for the implementation of ASDARB.

After getting acquainted with the materials and scientific works presented in the competition, analysis of their significance and the scientific, applied scientific contributions contained in them, I consider my **positive** assessment as well-grounded, and **recommend** to the esteemed Scientific Jury to prepare a Proposal Report to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences for the election of Chief Assistant Professor Dobrinka Ivanova Stoyanova, PhD to the academic position of 'Associate Professor' at Plovdiv University P. Hilendarski in professional field 3.8 Economics (Political Economy - Macroeconomics, Macroeconomic Analysis and Policies).

6th September 2021
Plovdiv

Opinion provided by:
Associate Professor Margarita Ruseva, PhD