

## STATEMENT

**by Dr. Vasil Stefanov Petkov, Associate Professor at Plovdiv University ‘Paisii Hilendarski’,  
Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, chair ‘Marketing and International Economic Re-  
lations’**

on the materials, which are submitted for the participation in a competition

for the academic position ‘**Associate Professor**’

**at Plovdiv University ‘Paisii Hilendarski’**

in the area of study 3. Social Sciences, Economics and Law, field of study 3.8. Economics (World Economy and International Economic Relations – International Finance)

In the competition for ‘Associate Professor’, which is published in the State Gazette (issue 40/May 14<sup>th</sup> 2021) and at the internet site of Plovdiv University ‘Paisii Hilendarski’ for the needs of the chair ‘Marketing and International Economic Relations’, Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, with the only participant Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Trayan Pavlov Yosifov from the chair ‘Marketing and International Economic Relations’, Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, Plovdiv University ‘Paisii Hilendarski’.

### **1. General presentation of the procedure and of the candidate**

By Order № P33-3160/July 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 by the Rector of Plovdiv University ‘Paisii Hilendarski’ (PU) I was appointed as a member of Scientific Jury in a competition for the academic position ‘Associate Professor’ at PU in the area of study 3. Social Sciences, Economics and Law, field of study 3.8. Economics (World Economy and International Economic Relations – International Finance), announced for the needs of the chair ‘Marketing and International Economic Relations’, Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences.

The only candidate who has filed documents is:

Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Trayan Pavlov Yosifov from Plovdiv University ‘Paisii Hilendarski’, Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, chair ‘Marketing and International Economic Relations’.

The filed documents (hard copies and electronic versions) are in compliance with the Regulations for Academic Development in Plovdiv University ‘Paisii Hilendarski’.

The candidate has graduated consecutively as Bachelor and Master in Finance at the University of National and World Economy, Sofia. At a later stage he has defended a dissertation at Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski' with the topic: 'Venture capital funds - a factor in accelerating the process of implementation of innovations by small and medium-sized enterprises in Bulgaria'.

He started his professional development in the financial sector (6 years), and then focused on teaching and research. Since 2012 he has been Assistant Professor at Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski', and since 2017 he has held the academic position Chief Assistant Professor.

I have no personal impressions from the candidate's performance outside this competition, except for his help while we conduct state exams, during which Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Trayan Yosifov conscientiously performs his duties.

## **2. General characteristics of the candidate's activities**

### **Assessment of teaching activity**

Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Trayan Pavlov Yosifov has over 8 years of teaching experience at Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski', Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences. He provides lectures and exercises of the disciplines 'Public Finance', 'Banking and Financing', and 'International Finance' mainly to students majoring in 'Finance', 'Accounting', and 'International Economic Relations'. His workload exceeds the minimum required for the academic position of 'Associate Professor'.

### **Assessment of scientific and scientific-applied activity**

The candidate has submitted 1 independent monography in Bulgarian language, 1 published book based on his defended dissertation, 1 studio, 1 textbook, 2 independent textbooks, 12 articles and reports. Of the articles and reports 1 issue is co-authored and indexed in SCOPUS. One third of the presented publications are in English. Separation protocols are also attached.

Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Trayan Pavlov Yosifov has participated in one national and two University projects. Evidence of six citations are provided.

### **Contributions (scientific and scientific-applied)**

- a professional comparison between equity and debt financing has been made;
- a special emphasis is placed on some of the most innovative forms of alternative financing based on bio-based projects;

- a successful comparison of the ways and conditions for financing innovations in the field of biotechnology in the USA and Europe, and in addition a number of good practices in some European countries, are considered;
- an analysis and detailed commentary on the international investment position of our country in retrospective period has been submitted;
- original author's methodologies for risk assessment are discovered;
- the thesis that no shocks in the monetary system of Bulgaria should be expected with a view to the adoption of the euro has been argued;
- recommendations are made for improving the economic situation and the conditions for doing business in Bulgaria;
- study guides are prepared in order to assist students in their preparation;
- a specific approach of teaching the disciplines is applied.

#### **Assessment of the personal contribution of the candidate in the respective publications**

I have not noticed any plagiarism when reviewing the candidate's materials. The main habilitation work of the candidate – the monography 'Biotechnological innovations through equity involvement' - I checked in the system Strikeplagiarism.com, to which is given access to the lecturers at Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski'.

According to the points system the candidate covers the national and additional criteria of the University for holding the academic position of 'Associate Professor'.

#### **3. Remarks and recommendations**

One comprehensive recommendation can be made to the candidate's subsequent teaching, scientific, and research activities, in particular to choose his own research niche in which to specialize, as well as to strengthen his publication activity in international peer-reviewed issues. In this way all stakeholders will benefit.

#### **CONCLUSION**

The documents and materials submitted by Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Trayan Pavlov Yosifov meet all the requirements of the Law for the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for Implementation of this Law, as well as the relevant Regulations at Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski'.

The candidate in this competition has submitted sufficient number of scientific papers published after the materials used in the defense of his PhD thesis. There are original scientific and scientific-applied contributions in the works of the candidate. The professional, scientific, and teaching qualification of Dr. Trayan Pavlov Yosifov is undoubted.

After getting acquainted with the materials and scientific papers presented in this competition, the analysis of their significance and the contained scientific and scientific-applied contributions, I find it reasonable to give **my positive assessment** and to recommend to the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences for the election of Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Trayan Pavlov Yosifov for the academic position ‘Associate Professor’ at Plovdiv University ‘Paisii Hilendarski’ in the area of study 3. Social Sciences, Economics and Law, field of study 3.8. Economics (World Economy and International Economic Relations – International Finance).

September 03th 2021

**Prepared by:**

Associate Professor Dr. Vasil Stefanov Petkov