

## STATEMENT

**by Georgi Marinov Georgiev, PhD, Associate Professor at the University of Economics - Varna**

about the materials presented for participation in a competition  
for the tenure of "Associate professor"  
at the Plovdiv University "Paisiy Hilendarski"  
in field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences  
professional division 3.8. Economics (World economy and international economic relations -  
International finance)

In the "Associate professor" competition, which was advertised in Darjaven vestnik, issue 40 from 14.05.2021 and on the Internet page of the Plovdiv University "Paisiy Hilendarski" for the needs of department "Marketing and international economic relations" at the Faculty of economic and social sciences, participates as a single candidate Assistant Professor Trayan Pavlov Yosifov, PhD., from the Plovdiv University "Paisiy Hilendarski".

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

With Order Nr. P33-3160 from 13.07.2021 of the Rector of the Plovdiv University "Paisiy Hilendarski" (PU) I was appointed as a member of the scientific jury for the competition for the tenure of "Associate professor" in PU in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences

professional division 3.8. Economics (World economy and international economic relations), advertised for the needs of the department "Marketing and international economic relations" at the Faculty of economic and social sciences.

For the participation in the advertised competition there is an application from a single candidate: Assistant professor Trayan Pavlov Yosifov, PhD from Plovdiv University "Paisiy Hilendarski". The presented from Dr. Trayan Yosifov set of paper materials is in line with the Regulation of the development of the academic staff in PU, the Law for academic development in Bulgarian (ZRASRB) and the Regulation for applying the Law for academic development in Bulgaria (PPZRASRB), and it consists of 13 documents, including all required for the competition, described in a list.

The candidate Dr. Trayan Yosifov has attached 18 scientific works (which have to be refereed, besides there are 5 others, related to his doctoral thesis and outside of the topic of the competition), incl. 1 study, 1 monograph, 1 book (based on the doctoral thesis), 3 textbooks and syllabuses, and

12 scientific papers and reports, I accept all of them for refereeing. Outside the refereeing are the other 4 scientific works related to the doctoral thesis and 1 scientific work outside of the topic of the competition. The distribution of the scientific works is, as national and international, as follows: 1/3 are in English, the rest - in Bulgarian. Presented are the respective references and protocols and other documents, declarations for originality and verification. Presented are also references for covering the minimal requirements - national and specific for the university.

The candidate in the competition holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree in "Finance" from the University of national and world economy in Sofia, and a PhD degree in Economics from the PU. Since 2012 he is an Assistant professor at PU, and besides the experience in the field of academics, has also experience in the field of banking, mainly in asset management, in several banks and financial companies. The candidate speaks English and Russian.

I do not know the candidate personally, nor do I have any personal impressions from his actings outside the competition.

## **2. General characteristics of the activity of the candidate**

### *Assessment of the teaching activity and abilities of the candidate*

The candidate Dr. Trayan Yosifov has a full-fledged teaching activity, he delivers courses in "Public finance", "Banking and financing" and "International finance", respectively for students in "Finance", "International economic relations", "Accounting" and several others at PU, FESS. Besides these courses, the candidate has also published some teaching materials - 2 syllabuses and 1 textbook in the field of banking and international finance.

The candidate also has vast experience in project management - he has successfully participated in the recent years in three scientific projects on the topics of green economy and sustainable development, as well as in two projects related to student practice.

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

Main publication for the competition is the presented monograph - Yosifov, T. (2020). Biotechnological innovation through equity participation. Plovdiv: Makros, p. 288, ISBN 978-954-561-499-6. The remaining publications are papers and reports, incl. in Scopus refereed journals. Three of the presented publications are co-authored, with one co-author. The monograph is a first attempt in its field in our country, it is based on the candidate's vast experience in finance, mainly in the risk financing of innovative projects, and is a demonstration of high professionalism.

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

The main contributions of the candidate are within his declarations, namely "applications of specific (non-conventional) forms of financing of innovative projects in the field of bioeconomy at the international level, in the prospects of their future practical application in Bulgaria" and are included in big part of the presented publications, incl. in the presented monograph and in several of the remaining publications. This topic is extremely important for the future development of the economy in our country, and also globally, therefore I recognize the extraordinary actuality of the author's explorations, which are able to be of serious importance for the science and for the practice. In the co-authored publications (declared is considerable participation) the contributions are also significant enough and are a personal merit of the candidate.

A search in google scholar shows Dr. Trayan Yosifov has been cited 14 times, with h-index 3. I find this quantity adequate for the situation in our country and I consider it appropriate for the present competition.

I don't find plagiarism in the presented publications.

### **3. Critical notes and remarks**

Considering the topic in which the candidate in the competition works is extremely interesting, I reckon that widening the empirics and the mathematical modelling of the processes is of key importance. However, this has to be regarded as rather a proposal for future scientific activity.

### **CONCLUSION**

The documents and materials, presented from Dr. Trayan Yosifov are in line with all the requirements of the Law for development of academic staff in Bulgaria (ZRASRB), the Regulation for its application (PPZRASRB) and the respective Regulation of PU "Paisiy Hilendarski".

The candidate in the competition has presented a sufficient number of scientific works, published after the materials used in the defense of the Phd thesis. In the works of the candidate there are original scientific and scientific-applied contributions, which have gained international recognition as a representative part of them has been published in journals and proceedings, issued by international academic publishing houses. The theoretical works of the candidate have practical applicability, part of them are directly oriented towards the teaching activity. The scientific and teaching qualification of Dr. Trayan Yosifov is undoubtful. His results in the teaching and scientific activity fully comply with the specific requirements of the Faculty of economic and social sciences, adopted within the Regulation of PU for application of ZRASRB.

After reading the presented in the competition materials and scientific works, analyzing of their importance and the included in them scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions, I find for reasonable to give my positive assessment and to recommend to the Scientific jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty council of FESS for the election of Dr. Trayan Yosifov at the academic position (tenure) 'Associate professor' in PU "Paisiy Hilendarski" in professional field 3.8. Economics (World economy and international economic relations).

03.09.2021 г.

Referee: .....

(Assoc. Prof. Georgi Marinov)