

## OPINION

from prof. Georgi Teoharov Tuparov, PhD  
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of the scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Olga Dobрева Rahneva, PhD, presented for participation in the competition for the academic position "PROFESSOR" in the field of higher education 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics, professional field 4.6 Informatics and computer science (Distributed systems and applications) for the needs of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, announced in State Gazette, no. 94 / 12.11.2021

### **1. General description of the presented documents**

By Order No. RD-21-37 from January 10, 2022 of the Rector of the University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski" I was appointed a member of the scientific jury of a competition for the academic position of "professor" in the field of higher education 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics, professional field 4.6 Informatics and Computer Science (Distributed Systems and Applications), announced for the needs of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences.

The only candidate who has submitted documents for participation in the announced competition is Assoc. Prof. Olga Dobрева Rahneva, PhD from the University of Plovdiv. The set of electronic materials presented by Assoc. Prof. Rahneva is in accordance with the Regulations for development of the academic staff of the University of Plovdiv.

It is evident from the submitted documents that Assoc. Prof. Rahneva has submitted numerous publications and citations for participation in the competition, but I will accept for review only those that meet the scientometric indicators for holding an academic position, namely: 3 monographs (two of them in group Γ), 13 indexed publications in WoS, IEEE and Scopus (9 of them with SJR) and 53 citations in scientometrically indexed publications. All publications submitted for participation in the competition are in English, except for the monograph presented in group B. The scientific papers submitted for participation in the competition were published after holding the academic position of "Associate Professor".

## **2. Scientometric indicators of the applicant according to ZRASRB**

The table below shows that the presented scientific papers meet the minimum national requirements (under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3 of ZASRB) for acquiring the academic position "Professor" in the professional field 4.6 "Informatics and Computer Science".

Group	A	Б	В	Г	Д	Е
Minimal points required	50	-	100	200	100	100
Achieved point by applicant	50	-	100	402	408	216.67

## **3. General characteristics of the scientific, scientific-applied and other activities of the applicant related to the competition**

The main scientific achievements in the accepted for review scientific works can be summarized in the following areas:

1. Research of the problems in the creation and use of tools and software for the implementation of services for participants in the process of e-learning.
2. Investigation of sigmoidal, cumulative and adaptive functions.
3. Research of the approaches for development of software agents, supporting the training in different fields.

Assoc. Prof. Rahneva has presented in detail her claims for contributions in the author's reference and summaries of scientific papers, which I accept in principle and leave for detailed evaluation by reviewers.

Also, it should be noted that Assoc. Prof. Rahneva has a serious publishing activity. She is the author or co-author of 87 scientific papers, of which 3 monographs and 6 textbooks for teaching students. The remaining 78 have been published in peer-reviewed or indexed journals and collections at home and abroad.

Assoc. Prof. Rahneva actively participates in research projects - a list of a total of 11 projects with international, national or university funding is presented.

## **4. Reflection of the applicant's scientific publications in the literature**

Assoc. Prof. Rahneva presented information on numerous citations of her scientific works. From them for the purposes of the competition can be separated 53, made in indexed editions, which as scientometrics significantly exceed the minimum requirements of PPZRASRB. The large total number of citations speaks volumes about the impact of her research in the scientific literature as a whole.

## **5. Assessment of the personal contribution of the applicant**

All scientific papers submitted for review are co-authored and I accept that the candidate's participation in them is equal to other authors, which, however, does not reduce the significance of the results achieved.

## **6. Personal impressions for the applicant**

I do not know Assoc. Prof. Olga Rahneva personally.

## **7. Critical remarks and recommendations**

I have no critical remarks and recommendations.

## **8. Conclusion for the application:**

After getting acquainted with the documents presented in the competition, scientific publications and contributions in them, I confirm that the candidate fully meets the requirements of ZRASRB, its regulations and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of Paisii Hilendarski University for the academic position " Professor "in the field of higher education 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics, professional field 4.6 Informatics and computer sciences (Distributed systems and applications). In particular, the candidate fully satisfies the minimum national requirements in the professional field and no plagiarism has been established in the scientific papers submitted at the competition.

I give my positive assessment of the candidacy.

Based on the above, I recommend the scientific jury to propose to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics of Paisii Hilendarski University to choose Assoc. Prof. Olga Dobрева Rahneva, PhD, to take the academic position of "professor" in the professional field 4.6 Informatics and Computer Science sciences (Distributed systems and applications).

28.02.2022 г.

Member of the Jury:

(prof. Georgi Tuparov, PhD)