

OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Iskra Bogdanova Hristova-Balkanska - Institute for Economic Research at BAS

regarding the documents submitted for participation in a competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" at the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv by field of higher education 3.0. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional direction 3.8. Economics (Goeconomics and Regional Economics)

In the competition for "Docent", announced in the Official Gazette, no. 39 of May 2, 2023 and on the website of Plovdiv University "P. Hilendarski" for the needs of the "Economic Sciences" department at the Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences, as a candidate participates ch. Assistant Professor Delyan Ivanov Angelov, Ph.D., from the Department of Economic Sciences at Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv.

General presentation of the procedure and the candidate

By order No. RD-2145/30.06.2023 of the Rector of the University of Plovdiv "Paisiy Hilendarski", I have been appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury for the above-mentioned competition for the academic position of "associate professor". The candidate Delyan Angelov has submitted a total of 14 works, as well as references for participation in scientific projects, academic data, work experience, etc. The submitted materials and references for the competition are in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the PU.

The candidate has a "master's degree" from SU "Kliment Ohridski" (specialization "Regional economic and political geography of countries") and has a PhD in political economy (regional economy) of the National Academy of Sciences acquired in 2016 at the PU (Department of Economic Sciences at FISN). Ch. Assistant Professor Delyan Ivanov Angelov, Ph.D., has many years of professional experience as a teacher of national economy/geoeconomics - assistant and principal assistant mainly at the University of Plovdiv (Departments of Marketing-MIE and IN), but also at the European College of Economics and Management, Plovdiv and College of Business and Public Administration, Haskovo.

Ch. Assistant Professor Delyan Angelov also meets the additional requirements of Paisii Hilendarski University of Applied Sciences, according to the RSARB (Art. 2b, Para. 5) and the rules for its application (Art. 1a, Para. 2, 3). Based on the map for the fulfillment of the requirements for occupying the academic position "associate professor" at Plovdiv University "Paisiy Hilendarski", which presents the implementation of the various indicators and the evidence attached to them, it can be summarized that the candidate meets the set requirements:

- obtained a doctorate from the National Academy of Sciences - in 2016 on the scientific specialty "Economics (Political Economy)";
- not less than two years of experience in the academic position "assistant", "main assistant";
- presented published monographic work - D. Angelov, "The Unknown City", Plovdiv: PU "Paisiy Hilendarski", 2018.

2. General description of candidate's scientific work

2.1. Assessment of educational and pedagogical activity

The professional work experience of Ch. assistant professor Dr. Delyan Ivanov Angelov at PU "Paisiy Hilendarski" as of 01.02.2023 is 23 years old, of which 2 years in the academic position of "chief assistant". The candidate's educational workload amounts to 4,049 hours of classroom work (lectures and exercises). The candidate conducts classes in the disciplines: "Goeconomics", "Regional Policy", "Economic Geography of Countries", "Public Geography of Bulgaria".

In connection with his teaching activity ch. Delyan Angelov, assistant professor, is the author of a number of textbooks and study aids. The activity of the candidate testifies to authority, competence and knowledge of the taught issues.

2.2. Brief description of the presented scientific works/publications

To participate in the competition, the candidate submits 16 scientific papers, including 3 monographs, of which 3 are independent (one is related to the dissertation), 7 scientific articles (one article in print), 1 report, 2 studies, 1 (one) chapter of a scientific monograph, 1 textbook and 1 study aid. When reviewing the candidate's materials, no elements of plagiarism were found. He took part in 5 projects, of which 1 national and 1 international.

The scientific and scientific-applied results achieved by Ch. Assistant Dr. Delyan Angelov confirm his research profile in the field of regional development.

Indicative of this is the independent work of the associate professor candidate - "The Unknown City", in which the focus is on researching the contemporary challenges and problems of cities, which requires a conceptual change in public administration. In his monographic work, the candidate thoroughly examines the social problems of the city in their interconnectedness. The monographic work offers a new and original approach to the study of urban development and urban management.

Dr. Angelov's published article: "About the new comprehension towards labor immigration towards EU", pp. 237-250, in "The State and the society in the 21-st century", Kracowska Szkola Wyzsza im. Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski, Krakow, ISBN 83-89823-75-6;.

2.3. A synthesized assessment of the candidate's main scientific and scientific-applied contributions

The main scientific and scientific-applied contributions in the published works submitted to the competition of Ch. Assistant Dr. Delyan Angelov can be systematized as follows:

Scientific contributions:

1. The theoretical knowledge and experience in the field of geoeconomics and regional economy has been systematized and enriched;
2. The specificity of the demographic and urban development of Bulgarian cities has been studied.

Scientific and applied contributions:

- In a new and original way, the knowledge about geo-urban development through the concept of the modern city has been supplemented, and the main trends for the future economic, social and territorial development within the framework of the European Union have been determined, as well as the interaction between individual regions in geo-economic and regional - political aspect;
- Through the application of synthesis, the problems of the modern city are defined, as well as the applied territorial approaches in the direction of the effects of the regional policy;
- The candidate proposes an innovative approach, including variability, emphasizing the increasingly clear sectoral challenges facing the city - economic, environmental, climate, social and demographic. These features make it necessary to apply the model of an integrated approach recommended as a priority by the author;
- The main aspects of demographic development and inequality, as well as the socio-economic problems of the population are systematized: the structure, reproduction, migrations, labor force and urbanization. The author applies his own monitoring toolkit,
- Complete analysis and evaluation of the spatial organization and functioning of the specified problems in geo-urban systems,
- The conceptual guidelines, trends and policies with a view to the future are derived

development of regional development and geo-economic knowledge.

3. Recommendations

Bearing in mind the proven professional competence of the author in the areas of: regional development, regional and urban economy, geo-economics and regional planning, I have no serious critical remarks about the candidate's scientific output and teaching-applied activity. I recommend to Ch. Assistant Professor Delyan Angelov in the future to direct his attention to the publication of more scientific and applied works related to the study of the problems of territorial sustainability of cities and Bulgarian regions with the aim of achieving regional sustainability in Bulgaria.

Research in this direction would contribute to improving the socio-economic development of the regions, as well as overcoming regional territorial imbalances in Bulgaria.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials presented by the candidate ch. Associate Professor Delyan Ivanov Angelov, PhD, meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of ZRASRB and the relevant Regulations of the PU "Paisiy Hilendarski".

The candidate has submitted a sufficient number of scientific works outside of the materials used in the defense of the ONS "doctor" (2016) and the competition for "principal assistant" (2020).

Those presented by Ch. Associate Professor Delyan Ivanov Angelov, Ph.D., results in academic and research activities fully correspond to the minimum national and additional requirements of the Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences, adopted in connection with the Regulations of the PU for the application of ZRASRB.

After getting acquainted with the materials and scientific works presented in the competition, analyzing their significance and the scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions contained in them, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment and to recommend the Scientific Jury to prepare a Report-proposal to the Faculty council of the Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences for the election of the head. Assistant Professor Delyan Ivanov Angelov, Ph.D., in the academic position of "associate professor" at PU "Paisiy Hilendarski" in the field of higher education: 3. Social, economic and legal sciences; professional direction: 3.8. Economics (Goeconomics and Regional Economics).

12.09.2023

Author of this Opinion:

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