

To
The members of the Scientific Jury,
established pursuant to Order No.
96/17.11.2023 in the field of higher
education 3. "Social, Economic and Legal
Sciences", professional field 3.6
"Law"/Administrative Law and
Administrative Procedure/.

OPINION

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nadezhda Hristova Hristova
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Concerning: the materials submitted for participation in the competition for occupying the academic position of **Associate Professor of the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv** in field of higher education 3. "Social, Economic and Legal Sciences", professional field 3.6. "Law", scientific specialty "Administrative Law and Administrative Procedure"

Dear members of the Scientific Jury,

As a member of the Scientific Jury, established by Order No. RD 21 - 82 of 16.01.2024 of the Rector of the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv, I hereby submit my opinion:

1. General presentation of the procedure and the applicant

In the competition for "Associate Professor" announced in the State Gazette, no. 96 of 17.11.2023 and on the website of Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv for the needs of the Department of Public Legal Studies at the Faculty of Law of Paisii Hilendarski University, Dr. Antonia Georgieva Ilieva from the Department of Public Legal Studies at the Faculty of Law of Paisii Hilendarski University participated as a candidate.

The candidate - Dr. Antonia Georgieva Ilieva , has submitted a set of materials on paper and electronic media in accordance with Article 66, paragraph 2 of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of Paisii Hilendarski University /PRASPU/. Dr. Ilieva has submitted for her participation in the competition a published habilitation thesis "Current Issues of the Contract under the Public Procurement Law", a published dissertation with regard to the scoring on the scientometric indicators, a published chapter of a collective monograph "Legal Regime of Public Procurement under the Public Procurement Law" , a

published textbook "Administrative Law Handbook" and twenty-four other scientific publications. According to the submitted scientific publications and in relation to the satisfaction of the minimum national requirements under Article 2b(2) and (3) of the Promotion of Academic Staff Act and Article 1a(2) of the Regulation on its implementation, my assessment on the number of points achieved by the applicant according to the indicators set out in the Annex to Art. 1a para. 3. "Social, Economic and Legal Sciences", professional field 3.6. "Law", is as follow: in group of indicators A – at minimum of 50 pts, achievement of 50; in group of indicators B – there are no minimum national requirements, in group of indicators C – at minimum of 100 pts achievement of 100, in group of indicators D – at minimum of 100 pts achievement of 372; in group of indicators E – at minimum of 50 achievement of 85; in group of indicators F –there are no minimum national requirements, achievement of 35 pts. I consider that Dr Antonia Ilieva meets the regulatory requirements, and more specifically Article 2b(2) and (3) of the Act, Article 1a, (1) of the Regulation and Article 65, paragraph 1, item 1 of PRASPU, for occupying the academic position of Associate Professor.

2. General description of the applicant's activities.

2. 1. Topical relevance

The habilitation thesis presented by Dr. Antonia Ilieva is devoted to a significant issue for both theory and practice - topical issues of the contract under the Public Procurement Act. From the content of the work one can draw a clear conclusion that the candidate is very familiar with the state of the issues she is addressing. Indicative of the knowledge of the problem are: the comprehensive performance of the tasks set; the thorough study of legal doctrine and case law; the logical and justified proposals made in the work for improving the institutional framework.

2.2. Characteristics and evaluation of scientific publications and contributions

Special attention should be paid to the submitted habilitation thesis "Current Issues of the Contract under the Public Procurement Act", which contains important contributions for science and practice. Structurally, the thesis consists of: a glossary, an introduction, 5 chapters, a conclusion and a bibliography. The volume of the work is 190 pages. The present study has the importance and the necessary qualities of a monographic study. Structurally and in terms of content, the work presented is a very good indicator of the candidate's creativity and focused research abilities. It is a thorough and analytical work. In my opinion, this work contains scientific novelties, it is distinguished by its topicality and also by its practical orientation.

I rate the exposition in the paper as focused and informative. It is accompanied by individual comparisons and distinctions, justification of conclusions and proposals. The scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the monograph "Current Issues of the Contract under the Public Procurement Act" are essential and useful for the legal doctrine and practice of the relevant state bodies. Some specific scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the dissertation may be highlighted:

- 1) a useful analysis of the legal nature of the contract under the PPA;
- 2) of significant contribution is the derivation and analysis of the differences between the public procurement contract and other similar institutions;
- 3) the analysis of the specificities of the content of the public procurement contract and the consequences for the parties is of particular importance;
- 4) The content of Chapter Five, on money laundering through the use of non-transferable third party and subcontracting capacity in public procurement contracts, is also of particular relevance.
- 5) of significant contribution are the justified proposals *de lege ferenda*, which the candidate makes in the monographic work, etc.

2.3. Assessment of the other scientific publications submitted and the personal contribution of the PhD student

The other publications submitted by the applicant deal with particular aspects of the legal nature, content and effects of the public procurement contract. The candidate - Dr. Antonia Georgieva Ilieva, has submitted 24 other scientific publications /articles and reports/ and a chapter of a collective monograph "Legal Regime of Public Procurement under the Public Procurement Act". In the presented publications, topical issues relevant to the topic of the habilitation thesis have been studied. The textbook "Administrative Law Handbook" is of particular importance for the training in law. The scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the habilitation thesis and the other presented publications are a personal merit of the candidate - Dr. Antonia Ilieva, . The candidate has correctly referred to the doctrinal sources.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials submitted by the candidate - Dr. Antonia Georgieva Ilieva meet all the requirements of the Promotion of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act, the Regulations for the Implementation and the relevant Regulations of Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv.

The candidate in the competition has submitted a sufficient number of scientific works published after the materials used in the defence of the doctoral degree and the acquisition of the academic position of Chief Assistant Professor. Hers theoretical works have practical applicability, some of them being directly oriented towards teaching work.

After reading the materials and scientific works presented in the competition, analysing their significance and the scientific, scientific and applied contributions contained in them, I find it justified to give my **positive** assessment and to recommend the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Law of Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv for the election of Dr Antonia Georgieva Ilieva to the academic position of Associate Professor at Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv in the field of higher education 3. "Social, Economic and Legal Sciences", professional field 3.6. "Law"/scientific specialty "Administrative Law and Administrative Procedure"/.

Prepared opinion:
(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nadezhda Hristova)

Sofia, 15.02.2024