

OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Iliyan Ivanov Ivanov

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of the materials submitted for participation in a competition for the academic position of *Associate Professor* at “Paisii Hilendarski” University of Plovdiv, in the field of higher education

4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics, professional field 4.2 Chemical Sciences

(General and Inorganic Chemistry).

In the competition for the academic position of *Associate Professor*, announced in the State Gazette, issue No. 96 of 11 November 2025, and on the website of „Paisii Hilendarski“ University of Plovdiv, for the needs of the Department of General and Inorganic Chemistry with Methodology of Chemistry Education at the Faculty of Chemistry, the candidate Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Kirila Trifonova Stoyanova has applied.

General presentation of the procedure and the candidate

The competition has been announced in accordance with the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for the Implementation of the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria, and the regulations of „Paisii Hilendarski“ University of Plovdiv. The set of documents submitted by Dr. Stoyanova is complete, accompanied by supporting evidence, and fully complies with the legal requirements.

The candidate, Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Kirila Trifonova Stoyanova, has been a lecturer at the Faculty of Chemistry of „Paisii Hilendarski“ University of Plovdiv since 2015. Her main professional activity is related to teaching and research work in the field of general and inorganic chemistry.

According to the submitted report, the candidate meets and exceeds the minimum national requirements for the academic position of *Associate Professor* in the professional field 4.2 Chemical Sciences, with a total of 454 points out of the required 400.

Distribution by groups of indicators:

Group A – 50 points (minimum required: 50 points)

Group B – 114 points (minimum required: 100 points)

Group Γ – 216 points (minimum required: 200 points)

Group Д – 74 points (minimum required: 50 points)

General characteristics of the candidate's activity

Research Activity

The research activity of Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Kirila Trifonova Stoyanova is characterized by thematic consistency, a clearly defined scientific profile, and sustainable development in the field of general and inorganic chemistry. The presented scientific output is directly related to the announced competition and reflects solid theoretical preparation, experimental competence, and the ability to conduct independent scientific research.

The submitted materials include publications in specialized scientific journals, participation in scientific forums, and citation data. The candidate presents a total of 21 scientific publications in journals indexed and abstracted in Scopus and Web of Science. These publications appear in international scientific journals such as *Acta Chimica Slovenica*, *Russian Journal of Inorganic Chemistry*, *Journal of Applied Spectroscopy*, *Monatshefte für Chemie*, *Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society*, and others.

The habilitation thesis comprises 8 scientific publications (114 points) that form a coherent thematic cycle. The publications outside the habilitation thesis (Group C) account for 216 points and demonstrate active research activity beyond the habilitation work.

The scientific contributions can be summarized as follows:

- development and application of modern methods for the synthesis and characterization of inorganic compounds;
- interpretation of spectral and structural data aimed at determining the structure and properties of the studied systems;
- expansion of knowledge in the field of coordination and applied inorganic chemistry.

The observed citations of the scientific publications indicate the recognition and applicability of the research results by other researchers.

Teaching activities

The teaching activity of Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Kirila Trifonova Stoyanova is characterized by consistency, strong engagement, and continuous development. She has many years of experience in teaching students in the *Bachelor's* and *Master's* degree programs in the professional fields 4.2 Chemical Sciences and 1.3 Methodology of Teaching

The candidate delivers lecture courses, seminars, and laboratory exercises in disciplines within the field of general and inorganic chemistry. Her teaching workload complies with the regulatory requirements and includes both compulsory and elective courses.

Particular attention should be given to the candidate's active participation in the development and updating of curricula and academic documentation, aligned with modern educational requirements and the competence-based approach to teaching. This contributes to maintaining a high quality of the educational process.

The candidate has supervised graduate students and actively supports students in the preparation of course and diploma theses, which demonstrates her commitment to individual work with students and to the development of their research skills.

The candidate's teaching activity fully corresponds to the profile of the announced competition and contributes significantly to the development of the department and the faculty.

Critical remarks and recommendations

I have no significant critical remarks on the presented materials.

Conclusion

Based on the presented materials, scientific publications, citation data, fulfillment and exceeding of the minimum national requirements, as well as the active and high-quality teaching activity, I consider that Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Kirila Trifonova Stoynova fully meets the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria and the regulations of „Paisii Hilendarski“ University of Plovdiv for holding the academic position of *Associate Professor* in the professional field 4.2 Chemical Sciences (General and Inorganic Chemistry).

I therefore give my positive opinion and propose that the esteemed Scientific Jury prepare a report and proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Chemistry for the election of Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Kirila Trifonova Stoynova to the academic position of *Associate Professor* at „Paisii Hilendarski“ University of Plovdiv in the field of higher education 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics, professional field 4.2 Chemical Sciences (General and Inorganic Chemistry).

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Plovdiv

Opinion prepared by:

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