

## **POSITION STATEMENT**

by Prof. D.Sc. Eng. Marin Berov Marinov  
Technical University of Sofia

Regarding the materials submitted for participation in the competition for the academic position of **Associate Professor** at Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" in the field of higher education 5. Technical Sciences, professional field 5.3 Communication and Computer Engineering (Computer Systems, Complexes and Networks)

In the competition for the academic position of Associate Professor, announced in State Gazette, issue 96/11.11.2025, and published on the official website of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski", for the needs of the Department of Electrical Power Engineering and Communications at the Faculty of Physics and Technology, the only applicant is Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Eng. Stanislav Mitkov Asenov from Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski".

### **1. General Presentation of the Procedure and the Candidate**

By Order No. RD-22-51/09.01.2026 of the Rector of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski", I was appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury for the competition for the academic position of Associate Professor in the professional field 5.3 Communication and Computer Engineering.

The competition involves a single candidate, Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Eng. Stanislav Mitkov Asenov.

The complete set of documents submitted by the candidate complies with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for its Implementation, and the Regulations for Academic Staff Development of Plovdiv University. The documentation includes a curriculum vitae, diplomas for the Master's and PhD degrees, a list and copies of scientific publications, a report on compliance with the minimum national requirements, a self-assessment of contributions, a citation record, documents certifying teaching activity and research involvement, and other relevant materials.

Dr. Asenov was born in 1987. He obtained his Master's degree in Computer Systems and Technologies in 2014 and was awarded the PhD degree in professional field 5.3 in 2021 at Plovdiv University. Since 2020, he has held academic positions at the University, and since 2022, he has served as Chief Assistant Professor.

### **2. General Characteristics of the Candidate's Academic Activity**

#### **2.1. Teaching Activity**

The submitted materials demonstrate a substantial teaching workload over recent years, ranging between 500 and 1100 academic hours annually. The candidate has delivered lectures and laboratory classes in 14 disciplines at both Bachelor's and Master's levels.

His teaching activities include developing instructional materials, designing

laboratory exercises, and implementing modern hardware and software platforms in courses on microcontrollers, embedded systems, and automotive electronics. This reflects a tangible contribution to the modernization and digital transformation of the educational process.

## **2.2. Research and Applied Scientific Activity**

The candidate has presented 42 scientific publications, of which 33–34 (excluding those related to the PhD dissertation) are considered in the present procedure. The publications have been presented at international scientific forums, including IEEE conferences in Bulgaria and IATED conferences, as well as in scientific proceedings.

The principal research areas include:

- Internet of Things (IoT) and Wireless Sensor Networks (WSN);
- LoRaWAN technologies and Smart City applications;
- Automotive electronics and embedded systems;
- Engineering education and the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into the learning process.

The scientific and applied scientific contributions include the development of energy-efficient sensor node architectures, models for environmental monitoring (including water quality monitoring and fine particulate matter measurement), conceptual models for battery-less systems powered by solar energy harvesting, and laboratory platforms for education in automotive electronics and CAN networks.

Particularly noteworthy are the implemented practical solutions, such as the IoT architecture for environmental monitoring in the Veleka River region, as well as the developed laboratory stands and real educational platforms integrated into the teaching process.

## **2.3. Compliance with Minimum National Requirements**

The submitted report on compliance with the minimum national requirements demonstrates that the candidate meets and significantly exceeds the statutory thresholds:

- Group of indicators B – substantially above the required minimum of 100 points;
- Group of indicators G – above the required minimum of 200 points;
- Group of indicators D – above the required minimum of 50 points.

A total of 78 citations and an h-index of 5 (Scopus), without self-citations, confirm the visibility and recognition of the candidate's research output within the scientific community.

In my assessment, the candidate fully satisfies the cumulative criteria and indicators for holding the academic position of Associate Professor in accordance with the LDASRB, its Implementing Regulations, and the Regulations of Plovdiv University.

### 3. Critical Remarks and Recommendations

1. A more integrative and conceptually synthesized presentation of the research results within the separate thematic areas would further strengthen the clarity of a leading scientific direction.
2. I recommend expanding publication activity in high-impact international journals and further increasing the international visibility of the research output.

These remarks are of a recommendatory nature and do not diminish my overall positive evaluation.

### CONCLUSION

The documents and materials submitted by Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Eng. Stanislav Mitkov Asenov fully comply with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, its Implementing Regulations, and the Regulations for Academic Staff Development of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski".

A sufficient number of scientific publications have been presented and published after the award of the PhD degree. The works contain original scientific, applied scientific, and applied contributions with practical relevance and clear orientation toward educational and engineering practice. The candidate's teaching and research qualifications are fully consistent with the profile of the announced competition.

Based on the above, I give my positive vote and recommend that the Scientific Jury propose to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Physics and Technology the election of Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Eng. Stanislav Mitkov Asenov to the academic position of **Associate Professor** in the professional field 5.3 Communication and Computer Engineering (Computer Systems, Complexes and Networks).

Date: 26.02.2026

JURY MEMBER:

(Prof. D.Sc. Eng. Marin B. Marinov)