



POSITION

From: Prof. Dr. Tsvetka Atanasova Stoencheva,
University of National and World Economy
Public Administration Department

Subject: competition for "Associate Professor" in the professional field 3.8 Economics/
National Economy - Regional Economy and Local Government /,announced for the needs of
the Trakia University - Stara Zagora, Economics faculty.

1. Competition information.

The competition has started for the needs of department of Regional Development at the Faculty of Economics. The competition was promulgated in State Gazette 104/08.12.2020. I participate as a member of the scientific jury on the basis of order 255/02.08.2021, of the Rector of Trakia University.

2. Brief information for the candidates in the competition.

In the competition participates Chief Assistant Dr. Nedelin Kostadinov Markov - the only candidate.

3. Fulfillment of the requirements for holding the academic position

3.1. Fulfillment of quantitative requirements

From the submitted documents it can be seen that the candidate Dr. Nedelin Markov meets the requirements for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor".

In particular, the documents shall include:

- Diplomas for completed education, diploma for acquiring educational scientific degree "Doctor", as a mandatory requirement of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in Bulgaria;
- Publications - monographs, studies and articles.
- Participation in projects;
- Study load in relevant disciplines;
- And others.

It can be concluded that the candidate Dr. Markov fulfils the mandatory conditions of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in Bulgaria and covers the mandatory minimum requirements for academic position "Associate Professor" at the Trakia University.

3.2. Assessment of quality requirements

From the presented documents it is evident that the candidate participates in the creation of academic disciplines, teaches lectures etc.

4. Assessment of the teaching activity of the candidate.

The candidate Chief Assistant Dr. Markov has the necessary teaching experience and a high degree of preparedness for the position " Associate Professor " There is a correspondence of the academic competence of the candidate with the announced scientific specialty and the additional requirements for the competition.

5. Brief description of the presented scientific papers / publications .

For participation in the announced competition Chief Assistant Dr. Nedelin Markov has presented:

- one monography
- nine publications in referenced and indexed scientific journals,
- nine publications in non-referenced and indexed journals.
- publication of a chapter in a book.

6. Synthesized assessment of the main scientific and applied scientific contributions of the candidate.

In the presented scientific publications of the candidate Chief Assistant Dr. Markov , the following more important scientific and applied-scientific proposals with the nature of contributions stand out:

6.1. Scientific-theoretical contributions with original character:

1. A comprehensive description of the municipal debt has been made. The conceptual framework of debt financing is presented and a theoretical classification according to various criteria is performed (**№ 9.0.1 "Debt and financial sustainability of local self-government in Bulgaria"**);
2. A theoretical concept of a possible link between the level of decentralization and economic growth measured by GDP is presented. (**№ 9 " Relations between economic growth and decentralization"**).
3. An analysis of the intensity of the tourism sector has been made in the part that is determined by the local (resident) population. As a result of the research, a strategic part is determined regarding the future development of tourism in Bulgaria (**№ 9.3.1 "Economic base of tourism in Bulgaria "**).

6.2. Scientific contributions:

1. In the presented monographic work a complex analysis of the debt financing in Bulgaria is performed. As of the date of publication of the monograph, there are no such analytical materials, except for the Ministry of Finance, which performs operational monitoring of the state of local finances (**№ 9.0.1 "Debt and financial sustainability of local self-government in Bulgaria"**);
2. Author's views on the impact of municipal indebtedness on the financial sustainability of local self-government are presented. Some macroeconomic connections , on the dynamics of municipal debt are evaluated. In the publication **"Monitoring and policies towards municipalities with financial**

difficulties” (№ 9.1.3) a grouping of municipalities in Bulgaria was performed in order to define the main groups for impact. The contributing element consists in the opportunity provided by the author to differentiate the funds for fiscal impact. The publication **“Opportunities for improving the mechanisms for allocating general compensatory subsidies” (№ 9.2.3)** has the same contribution , as compensatory subsidies are one of the most effective tools for smoothing fiscal imbalances in local self-government. The publication **'Relations between economic growth and decentralization' (№ 9.1.1)** reveals some possible relations between indicators characterizing decentralization processes and an aggregate indicator measuring the state and volume of the national economy.

3. In the publication **“Rural Areas in Bulgaria - Identification and Main Characteristics” (№ 9.1.4)** a systematization and typology of rural areas in Bulgaria has been performed. This is particularly important for rural management policies. With the same contributions is the publication **“Regional disproportions - business demography and economic growth (example of Bulgaria)” (№ 9.1.7),** namely the search for typology and explanation regarding regional economic and economic activity.

4. A new research area after 2017 is formed around the concept of bio-economy. In this area are the publications **" Regional economy within the context of bioeconomy" (No 9.1.8) and " Economic framework of the bio-based primary sector in Bulgaria" (No 9.1.9).** As a result of the research the author establishes a growth in the primary bio-based sector but there is a need for careful planning for not less than 10 years horizon. When developing such plans, it is necessary to take into account many socio-economic factors, in addition to the demand for high added value from organic production.

5. In the publications **“ Some applications of remote sensing methods in the administration of urban development (the example of the City of Stara Zagora)” (№ 9.2.9), “Spatial analysis of commercial activity through the use of geographic information systems” (9.2.8) and 'Use of GIS systems for measuring the spatial accessibility of health services' (№ 9.2.7)** modern methods for managing urban development, the organization of public services, and planning certain business processes are used.

I accept the contributions in the indicated fields.

7. Notes and recommendations to the candidate .

There are no significant deficits and weaknesses in the candidate's research and teaching activities . The purpose of the recommendations is to suggest to the candidate for the position "Associate Professor" some guidelines for improving his future work and future research . I recommend to the candidate to continue its work on writing textbooks, participation in international scientific conferences and scientific projects.

8. Conclusion

After the review of all submitted materias, I think that the candidate Dr. Nedelin Markov fulfils all mandatory legal requirements and additional indicators for holding the academic position "Associate Professor" at Trakia University . The presented scientific

production of the candidate matches the theme of the competition. It is developed at very good scientific level and has become public through a large number of publications.

The positive assessments allows me to make a proposal Chief Assistant Dr. Nedelin Markov to hold the academic position "Associate Professor" in the professional field 3.8 Economics /national economy - regional economy and local government/.

Sofia

Prepared position:

Заличено!

/01.03.2021/

Prof. Dr.Tsvetka Stoencheva: