

ТРАКИЙСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ
Стара Загора
Стопански факултет
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REVIEW

of prof. Darina Ruscheva Todorova, PhD, member of the **Scientific Jury** in a competition for awarding academic degree "**associate professor.**"

Field of higher education: 3. "Social, economic and law sciences"

Professional field: 3.8. "Economics"

Scientific specialty: "National economy (regional economy and local government)"

Faculty of Economics at Trakia University – Stara Zagora

Department of Regional development

Official Journal of Republic of Bulgaria 104/08.12.2020

1. Information about the competition

The competition for associate professor is announced by the Trakia University – Stara Zagora for the needs of department of "Regional development" at Faculty of Economics. The competition is publicly announced at the Official Journal of the Republic of Bulgaria, issue 104/08.12.2020, in accordance with the Act on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations on the implementation of the act on the development of the academic staff and the Regulation for the development of the academic staff at Trakia University – Stara Zagora.

There is only one applicant who participates in the competition – chief assist. prof. Nedelin Kostadinov Markov, PhD. He has provided comprehensive, precisely arranged documents which are in accordance with the normative requirements, such as: professional CV, copies of his diplomas, abstracts of the scientific publications after he has defended his PhD thesis, list of the articles and conference proceedings and their copies, list of the required citations, document for proficiency of foreign language etc.

The review is prepared in accordance with Ordinance № 255/08.02.2021 of the Rector of Trakia University, notification letter of the Dean of the Faculty of Economic (№ 191/09.02.2021) and with my declared consent.

2. Information about the applicant

Chief. Assist. Prof. Nedelin Markov, PhD was born is 1981. In 1999 he graduated the Commercial High School in Stara Zagora, specialty Accounting. He graduated bachelor's degree in Accounting in 2003 at Dimitar Tsenov Academy of Economics and master's degree in Accounting and Auditing in 2005 again at Dimitar Tsenov Academy of Economics. In 2012, Nedelin Markov successfully defended his PhD thesis at the Economic Research Institute at Bulgarian Academy of Science. I have direct, good impressions about his work on the dissertation and on the presentation of the scientific results to the Scientific Jury, as he was a PhD student at the Section of "Regional and sector economy" of which I have the honor to be a head.

In the period 2003-2006 Nedelin Markov, PhD was an accountant at Trakia University – Stara Zagora. Since 2009 he holds the academic occupations "assistant professor" and "chief assistant professor" (approved with an Order of the Rector of Trakia University – Stara Zagora № 2106/04.11.2013).

He speaks English and German. He possesses the necessary competences and skills for occupying the academic position.

Chief. Assist. Prof. Nedelin Markov, PhD provides lectures in the following *disciplines*: Principles of Accounting, Company Accounting, Standardization in the Accounting, Computer processing of accounting information, Regional economics, Local government and administration.

3. Information about the scientific publications

To participate in the competition, Nedelin Markov, PhD has provided a **monograph** ("Debt and financial sustainability of the local self-government in Bulgaria (2017), Cota Publishing house, Stara Zagora, pp. 152, ISBN 978-954-305-456-5). The main idea of the monograph is to be made brief characteristics of the municipality debts, to be analyzed and assessed their dynamics and structure. The study is structured in three chapters, where issues such as essentials and characteristics of the municipality debt, value, and structure of the debt structure in Bulgaria, municipality debt and financial sustainability of the local self-government and macroeconomic impact over the municipality debt are examined. In the conclusions, the author has clearly summarized the main propositions and

measures which are of interest both to the experts in the field of local self-government and to the students in specialties Economics and Public administration.

Rest of the **publications** are distributed as follows: a) *articles and conference proceedings, published in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in world databases with scientific information*: a total of 9, of which independent - 3 and co-authored - 6; b) *articles and reports published in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review or published in peer-reviewed collective volumes*: a total of 9, of which 6 independent and 3 co-authored; в) *published book chapter*: Economic basis of Tourism in Bulgaria (2019). in "Identification of the correlations and processes of developing a model for sustainable regional tourism", Cota Publishing House, Stara Zagora, pp. 95-118, ISBN 978-954-305-522-7.

It is noteworthy that most of the provided scientific publications for reviewing of chief assist. prof. Nedelin Markov, PhD are published in prestigious scientific journals, such as: Trakia Journal of Sciences, "Economic Studies" journal, "Economic Thought" journal, "Management and sustainable development" journal as well as in conference proceeding of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, University of Veliko Tarnovo, etc.

The main issues, examined in the publications of Nedelin Markov, PhD are related to: a) possible correlations between economic growth and decentralization; b) implementation of models for Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in the business; c) determining the effects of national growth over the development of the rural areas by using various socio-economic parameters; d) effective management of the bioeconomy by defining the national priorities and policies in the field of bioeconomics.

The purpose of the book chapter "Economic basis of tourism in Bulgaria", included in the book " Identification of the correlations and processes of developing a model for sustainable regional tourism" is to be analyzed the tourism sector intensity in relation to the determination of the local population. The conclusions of the author stated that the local tourist intensity has not been activated because of the economic crises, which fact makes Bulgaria strongly dependent on the number of the foreign tourists in the country.

4. Scientific activity of the applicant

Nedelin Markov, PhD participates in 8 research projects the topics of which are in the field of regional development. He is the leader of the research project "Socio-economic challenges to the urban development in Bulgaria". The results of the projects, in which he has participated, are presented to the academic audience

at various scientific conferences, organized by UNWE, University of Economics – Varna, University of Veliko Tarnovo. He has been a reviewer of an article, published in Trakia Journal of Sciences (Petrova, K., Local finances in Bulgaria - nature, objectives and financial status of the municipalities).

He works also as an expert and consultant at Center for regional development. He participates in the activities of the Center for Electronic and Distance Learning at Trakia University – Stara Zagora.

5. Citations

The list of citations provided by chief assist. prof. Nedelin Markov, PhD for participation in the competition for “associate professor” includes a) *citations or reviews in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes* - 3 and b) *citations or reviews in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review* – 6. There is also a Reference (6/29.02.2021) from the Central Library of Trakia University – Stara Zagora about the publications with Impact factor and Impact rank of chief assist. prof. Nedelin Markov, PhD and a Reference (7/29.01.2021) about the citations in SCOPUS and Web of Sciences. Consequently, the applicant shows strong presence in the scientific community.

6. Assessment of the scientific contributions of the applicant

Getting familiar with the scientific publications of chief. assist. prof. Nedelin Markov, PhD gives grounds to be mentioned the following most important scientific and scientific-applied contributions:

1. **Municipality debt** (performed overall conceptual framework for debt funding, theoretical classification in various criteria).

2. **Developed theoretical concept** for the possible relationship between level of decentralization and economic growth, measured by GDP.

3. **Tourist sector** (assessment of the tourist sector intensity, determined by the local population and implemented strategic part for the development of the tourism in Bulgaria).

4. **Debt funding in Bulgaria** (original and complexed study of the debt funding in Bulgaria).

5. **Impact of the municipality indebtedness over the financial sustainability of the local self-government** (defining the main impact factors, unique author idea for differentiating the sources for fiscal influence etc.).

6. **Systematization and typology of the rural areas in Bulgaria** (searching the typology and determining the economic and social activity).

7. **Concept for bioeconomy** (substantiated author's proposal for careful approach to planning the development of the bioeconomy, with the need to take into account the impact of various socio-economic factors on bio-production).

8. **Geographic Information Systems** (illustrating their use in spatial analysis of commercial activity and measuring the spatial accessibility of health services).

The listed contributions of the applicant enrich the theoretical knowledge and includes valuable ideas for the development of the regional development and economic practices.

7. Teaching activity of the applicant

The acquired knowledge and experience from the research work of chief assist. prof. Nedelin Markov, PhD have positive impact over his teaching activities. He is the author of the *book* "Local government and administration" ("Trakia University" Publishing House, (2018), ISBN 978-954-338148-7). He has developed the following *syllabuses*: a) in Bachelor's degree - 3 ("Local government and administration", "Geographic information systems and regional development" and "Computer processing of accounting information", in co-authorship with prof. Nadka Kostadinova) and b) in Master's degree - 2 ("Standardization in accounting", in co-authorship with prof. Nadka Kostadinova and "Applied software in accounting" in co-authorship with prof. Nadka Kostadinova). Chief assistant prof. Nedelin Markov, PhD is a scientific supervisor of 10 graduates.

The provided scientific materials by chief assist. prof. Nedelin Markov, PhD exceed substantially the approved Minimum National Requirements to the scientific and teaching work of the applicants for acquiring the academic occupation "associate professor".

Getting familiar with the scientific and teaching activity of chief assist. prof. Nedelin Markov, PhD give me the grounds to characterize him as a professional in the field of regional development and local government as well as an experienced lecturer and researcher in this field.

8. Conclusion

Based on the facts and arguments, concerning the scientific contributions, reported publication activity and teaching work of the applicant, I propose with full conviction to the **respected Scientific Jury** to vote positively for awarding the

academic occupation “**associate professor**” to **chief assist. prof. Nedelin Markov, PhD.**

Sofia, 02.04.2021

Reviewer:

/prof. Darina Ruscheva Todorova, PhD/

Заличено!