

ATTITUDE OF REVIEWER

of Prof. Dr. Mitko Atanasov Dimitrov,

from the Economic Research Institute at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, professional field 3.8., on the scientific works for participation in a competition for the academic position of associate professor, in professional field 3.8, sub-field "Statistical and econometric methods" at ERI-BAS, in a competition announced in the State Gazette no. 33/29.04.2022, with candidate Ch. Assistant Professor **Nedyalko Mariev Nestorov**, Ph.D.

The competition for the scientific position "Associate Professor" has been announced for the needs of the department "Economics of the Firm" at ERI-BAS. The only participant in it is Dr. Nedyalko Mariev Nestorov, chief assistant in the same department.

In 2009 Nedyalko Nestorov obtained a bachelor's degree in Statistics and Econometrics, and in 2010 - master's degree in Financial Market Forecasting at the Varna Economic University. In 2015, he defended his doctoral degree at the Economic Research Institute at the BAS. Since 2015 Dr. Nestorov was an assistant and then a chief assistant at ERI-BAS.

Chief Assistant Dr. Nedyalko Nestorov speaks and uses English in his work and has good computer skills (Gretl, SPSS, E-Views, Windows, MS Word, MS Excel, MS Power Point, Internet, HTML, CSS, CMS, etc.).

I. Assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements and the requirements of ERI-BAS

Ch. assistant professor Nedyalko Nestorov, has met, and in many indicators exceeded the minimum national requirements and the requirements of ERI-BAS for scientific activity in the field of the competition for "associate professor", determined by the Regulations for the implementation of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic Bulgaria and by the Ordinance on the development of the academic staff of ERI-BAS.

Nedyalko Nestorov has a defended dissertation, has been an assistant for 3 years and participates in the competition with the obligatory dissertation and habilitation work. In the publications section, he participated with a published monograph and 16 articles in scientific journals, chapters in the collective books and reports in proceedings of national and international conferences. The points he receives in Group C (Publications) and D (Citations) are a total of 365 points, instead of the required 300 points.

II. Research activity and results

1. General characteristics of the author's publications

Ch. assistant professor Nedyalko Nestorov participated in the competition for associate professor with one monograph, 1 article and two studies published in scientific publications,

referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information and 13 articles and reports published in non-refereed journals with scientific review or in edited collective volumes.

In terms of number and volume of pages, the publications exceed the minimum requirements for participation in a "associate professor" competition. Publications include studies and articles in scientific journals or collective volumes of universities, reports in proceedings of national and international conferences, etc. Five of them were published in English, including in international journals. It makes a good impression that there are both self-written and co-authored publications.

All publications, in my opinion, are peer-reviewed or, as is the case with conference papers, subject to public discussion.

2. Evaluation of the author's scientific and scientific-applied contributions in publications.

Ch. assistant professor Nedyalko Nestorov, has singled out 14 areas in which his independent, original scientific and scientific-applied results can be found. In my opinion, they can be grouped into the following several groups:

- A model for the influence of final consumption, gross capital formation, export and import on the GDP of Bulgaria for the period 2001-2014 has been derived.
- A systematization and classification of the understanding of sustainability was carried out, an author's coefficient of economic sustainability-CS and a coefficient for establishing the geographical stability of foreign trade transactions were proposed and approved. On this basis, the sustainability of Bulgarian exports was assessed at different levels of aggregation - for all exports, separately for goods and services, as well as at the lowest level - for certain types of goods and services.
- A coefficient for establishing the geographical concentration of foreign trade transactions has been developed and tested and the leading countries - trading partners of Bulgaria in terms of imports and exports have been established, together with the geographical stability of foreign trade transactions and the geographical concentration of foreign trade transactions of Bulgarian foreign trade for the period 2015-2021 .
- The contribution of the enterprises from the "Extractive industry" sector to the Bulgarian economy and in the European context was evaluated, through the indicators of added value and number of employed persons, the export potential of various Bulgarian industries and its influence on the economic growth of the country was evaluated, etc.

Contributions can be mainly characterized as scientific and applied. It is positive that most of them are related to the scientific sub-field of the "associate professor" competition, and the author shows his ability to use statistical and econometric research methods, and in some cases to supplement and develop models and coefficients.

3. Quoting from other authors.

Dr. Nestorov has 15 citations on 9 of his publications, h-index=2. Two of the citations are in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes. Four of the citations are in peer-reviewed

monographs and collective volumes, and the remaining 9 citations are in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals. The points that are collected in this group are more than the minimum required number.

IV. Administrative and public activity

Ch. assistant professor Nedyalko Nestorov, actively participates in professional organizations - Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, Union of Economists in Bulgaria. During the period 2016-2018 he was a member of the General Assembly of the BAS as a representative of the youth from the "Social Sciences" field. In 2017 he was selected by competition to participate in the sixth meeting of young economists with Nobel Prize laureates in economics and is a member of Lindau Alumni - an international organization of participants in such meetings.

V. Personal impressions of the candidate

I know Ch. assistant professor Dr. Nedyalko Nestorov for more than 10 years and I have witnessed his growth as a doctoral student, assistant and chief assistant. He is an active and successful young researcher in an interesting and current field of research. He has specific expertise that the Institute and the Department need.

VI. Opinions, recommendations and notes on the activity and achievements of the candidate

I have no notes on Nedyalko Nestorov's participation in the "Associate Professor" competition. I would recommend him as a habilitated scientist to show more initiative now and as a project manager.

Conclusion: Everything stated above gives me reason to believe that Ch. assistant professor Nedyalko Nestorov, Ph.D., meets the conditions and requirements of the LDASRB and the Rules of its implementation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Bulgaria and of ERI-BAS for holding the academic position of associate professor in professional field 3.8, sub-field "Statistical and econometric methods". There are all the necessary conditions for me to draw a positive conclusion about his election of the academic position "Associate Professor" to Ch. Assistant Professor Nedyalko Nestorov, Ph.D., for the needs of the department "Economics of the Firm" at ERI-BAS.

Date: 27.08.2022

Signature