

ATTITUDE OF REVIEWER

for the needs of a competition for an academic position "Associate Professor" in professional field 3.8 Economics

Prepared by:

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Regulatory basis:

Order 365/18.07.2023 of the Director of the Economic Research Institute (ERI) at the BAS and Decision of a Scientific Jury on Designating Reviewers (protocol No. 44 /25.07.2023)

About:

competition for an academic position Associate Professor in professional field 3.8 Economics - Economics of transport (Water and air transport), announced in SG No. 44 of 2023 , for the needs of the "Regional and Sectoral Economy" section at the ERI, BAS

One candidate participates in the competition, namely:

Chief Assist. Prof. Dr. Petya Delcheva Koralova-Nozharova

1. Brief presentation of the candidate and assessment of professional experience

Chief Assist. Prof. Dr. Petya Delcheva Koralova-Nozharova graduated with a bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree in transport economics at the Faculty of "Infrastructure Economics" at the University of National and World Economy. In parallel with her studies at UNWE, she also completed a master's degree in "Transport Economics" at the BFI University of Applied Sciences – Vienna.

From the end of 2014 to the end of 2019, she successively held the academic positions of Assistant Professor and Chief Assistant Professor at the Todor Kableschkov Higher School of Transport in the city of Sofia, where she also briefly held the position of Deputy Head of the Department of Economics and Accounting in Transport. From 2020 to the present, she has been holding the academic position of Chief Assistant Professor in the Section "Regional and Sectoral Economy" at the Economic Research

Institute at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, where from March 2022 he is also the Scientific Secretary of the Section.

The candidate also has professional experience from the state administration, where in the period 2008-2011 she was an expert in the "Drivers and traffic safety" department at the "Road Vehicles and Drivers" Directorate in the Executive Agency "Automotive Administration" at the Ministry of Transport and Communications. She participated as a key expert in the project of the Confederation of Independent Labour Unions in Bulgaria BG05M9OP001-1.128-0001 "Partnership in a digital environment" and as a Member of the Monitoring Committee of the Operational Program "Transport Connectivity 2021-2027" at the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Petya Kolarova-Nozharova is a member of the "Economic Sciences" section of the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria and a member of the Union of Economists in Bulgaria. She is fluent in English and German.

2. Fulfilment of the minimum requirements and the additional requirements of the ERI at the BAS

The mandatory conditions that are required of the applicants according to the Bulgarian legislation, are:

- 1) To have acquired an educational and scientific degree "Doctor" or a scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences";
- 2) For not less than two years, they have held the academic position of "assistant professor", "chief assistant professor", or have been lecturers, including part-time, in a higher school or scientific organization;
- 3) To have submitted a published monographic work or equivalent publications in specialized scientific publications, which do not repeat those submitted for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "doctor" and for the acquisition of the scientific degree "doctor of science".

The reference submitted by the applicant in relation to the national minimum requirements shows that the total mandatory amount of points required by the national legislation for participation in a competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" is available.

The candidate also meets the additional requirements according to Art. 81 of the Regulations for the acquisition of scientific degrees and holding academic positions at the ERI, BAS, namely the presence of "at least 2 publications in a refereed and indexed publication in SCOPUS or WoS".

3. General characteristics of the presented scientific publications and citations

In the current competition, the candidate submitted 16.5 items for participation. Of these publications, 3 are indexed in Scopus and Web of Science. For co-authored publications, 7 separation protocols are presented.

The scientific publications presented in this competition include 1 monograph (habilitation thesis); 1 book published on the basis of a defended dissertation; 1 study published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information; 1 (0.5) co-authored studies published in publications indexed in other international databases with scientific information; 1 article and 1 report published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information; 4.5 articles indexed in other international databases with scientific information; 6.5 papers published in peer-reviewed collective volumes. The publications submitted in the competition do not duplicate the publications submitted for the defence of the Doctoral Doctorate and for holding the academic position of "Chief Assistant", as is evident from the references attached to the documentation.

The habilitation work is the monograph "Effective forms of protection of competition and regulation of the business environment of maritime transport in Bulgaria", published in 2023 by the BAS Academic Publishing House "Prof. Marin Drinov".

The citations of the publications of Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Petya Kolarova-Nozharova, provided for participation in this competition, are:

- 4 citations or reviews in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes;
- 6 citations in peer-reviewed monographs and collective volumes;
- 8 citations or reviews in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals

4. Evaluation of scientific and scientific-applied contributions

I confirm the details described by the candidate, Chief Assist. Prof. Dr. Petya Kolarova-Nozharova regarding scientific and scientific-applied contributions, namely regarding deriving a definition of competitiveness of maritime transport in Bulgaria and identifying effective forms of competition to improve its market positions, as well as summarizing the competitiveness of seaports in Bulgaria based on a comparative analysis of EU member states through operational features, efficiency and productivity

indicators of seaports, realized through the habilitation thesis – the monograph "Effective forms of protection of competition and regulation of the business environment of maritime transport in Bulgaria" and some of the other featured publications.

I also confirm the additional contributions related to the candidate's publications on the possibility of applying the concept of corporate social responsibility in different modes of transport, with the analysis of the relationship between the financial situation of passenger air operators and the degree of digitization of their core activity through an econometric model, as well as with the assessment of opportunities and limitations for the transport sector in accordance with the priorities of the European Green Deal and the National Plan for Resilience and Recovery.

5. Notes and recommendations to the candidate

I have no specific notes and recommendations for the scientific production presented for evaluation, and I would share with the candidate in operational order only some practical advice for her future academic work, which I will not bother the respected scientific jury with.

6. Conclusion

My categorical opinion is that the candidate for "Associate Professor" in Professional field 3.8. Economics, Chief Assistant Prof. Dr. Petya Delcheva Koralova-Nozharova, meets the express legal requirements and regulations, has the necessary publications and distinguished contributions.

This allows me to express my positive opinion and to propose to my colleagues from the respected scientific jury that Dr. Petya Delcheva Koralova-Nozharova be awarded the title of "Associate Professor" in professional field 3.8 Economics - Economics of transport (Water and air transport).

Sofia, 18/09/2023

Signature:

/Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Dimitrov Georgiev/