

OPINION

By Prof. Emil Spassov Panusheff, PhD
Economic Research Institute at the BAS,

Regarding: Competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in professional direction 3.8 Economics /European Public Finances/ in the "International Economy" section of the Economic Research Institute at the BAS, published in SG no. 40/07/05/2024.

1. General information about the competition.

The competition was announced for the needs of the "International Economy" section, on the basis of Art. 4 of ZRASRB, art. 86 of the Regulations for the acquisition of scientific degrees and the occupation of academic positions at the Economic Research Institute at the BAS and according to the decision of the National Assembly of the ERI at the BAS - prot. No. 9 of 26.06.2024.

I participate in the scientific jury for the competition in accordance with Order No. 426/05.07.2024 of the Director of the Economic Research Institute at the BAS.

2. Information about the candidate.

For participation in the competition, 1 candidate submitted documents - head assistant Dr. Yana Paliova.

Dr. Yana Paliova is head assistant in the "International Economy" section of the ERI at the BAS. She worked as a senior economist at the IMF, Ministry of Finance of Bulgaria. He participates in the development of the Annual Report of the ERI at the BAS, scientific research projects from the research program of the Economic Research Institute at the BAS, IMF analyses, participation in national and international conferences and projects. He has a teaching practice and developed textbooks on the theory of budget decisions in the CDL of the UNWE. Member of the Union of Economists and scientific secretary of the "International Economy" section at the Economic Research Institute at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

3. Fulfillment of the minimum requirements and the additional requirements of the Economic Research Institute at the BAS.

The assessment of the presented scientific publications and the attached reference show an implementation of 575 items with minimum national requirements of 450 items.

4. General characteristics of the presented scientific publications.

In the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor", head assistant professor Yana Paliova participated with 16 publications. The habilitation thesis "The role of public finances for the transition to a green economy and sustainable development of Bulgaria in 2021-2027" is presented, which is registered in the National Library of "St. St. Cyril and Methodius", as well as a book based on a defended dissertation "Fiscal incentives and effects of the European structural funds and policies in Central and Eastern Europe". Two studies in the journal "Economic Studies" are devoted to fiscal policy in the context of the green transition and the effects of EU funding for the current program period, and the study in the Annual Report of the Economic Research Institute at the BAS analyzes the challenges facing public finances. Eleven articles and reports at scientific forums in the country and abroad are indicated, in which the achievements of head assistant professor Dr. Yana Paliova in the field of public finance and financial instruments for green transition have been approved at a high scientific level.

5. Evaluation of the scientific and scientific-applied contributions in the production presented by the candidate.

The in-depth research and critical analysis of head assistant professor Dr. Yana Paliova are a prerequisite for the formulation of significant scientific and scientific-applied contributions in the following areas:

- The need to change the fiscal rules to improve the predictability of public spending and the creation of fiscal buffers to improve the efficiency of public spending for green and digital transformation has been proven.
- The role of public finance for sustainable development and creation of a green economy with the support of a just transition is defined. The role of public policies and fiscal measures in reaching the indicators of green transition, sustainability and dealing with crisis phenomena is argued.
- Assessments have been formulated for the role of EU financial instruments in the 2021-2027 program period to create a climate-neutral economy and the fiscal sustainability of the Union through the participation of member states in the new own resource of the EU budget.
- On the basis of an adapted and applied model for assessing the impact of environmental taxes and fees in Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania, conclusions were

made about their positive role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and net savings.

- The negative consequences of the non-fulfillment of the goals of the green transition projects under the Recovery and Sustainability Mechanism on public spending, the budget deficit and the government debt due to the need to replace European funding with a national resource have been proven. The need for fiscal consolidation with stimulation of private investments and improvement of the business environment, as well as a change in tax or spending policies to increase the efficiency of public spending, is justified.

The scientific and scientific-applied contributions thus presented are the work of head assistant professor Dr. Yana Paliova and show in-depth theoretical training and precision in obtaining and interpreting data from the critical analysis. The participation in national and international researches have allowed head assistant professor Dr. Yana Paliova to discuss the results of her studies and make them available to researchers and specialists.

6. Description of the presented citations.

The achievements of head assistant professor Dr. Yana Palova are known to the general scientific community, which is confirmed by the mentioned 16 citations in national and foreign publications. Of the publications submitted for participation in the competition, 5 have been cited in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases (Scopus and Web of Science). Two citations in peer-reviewed monographs and collective volumes and 9 citations or reviews in non-refereed foreign peer-reviewed journals are presented.

7. Notes and recommendations.

The scientific research and the significant volume of publications of head assistant professor Dr. Yana Paliova, give the opportunity to formulate views that will serve as a recommendation for future studies in the following directions:

First of all, views on the results of the application of the Green Pact are perceived as a higher phase of development of the integration process. From the different results in the EU member states, it is clear that the environmental policies and the transition do not contribute to strengthening the integration mechanisms, lead to a deterioration of the competitiveness of the EU in the world market.

Secondly, the analysis of the fiscal instruments gives reason to question the effectiveness of the application of uniform rules by countries with different fiscal capacity,

which in practice determines the possibilities for implementing a green transition and achieving the goals of the EU policy.

Thirdly, one of the roles of the fiscal policy is the attraction of foreign direct investments in strategic sectors for the development of the economy. Leading economies apply tax credits as a tool to attract leading companies to their countries, which raises the question of the applicability of this tool in the context of EU Single Market development policies.

The stated views do not reduce the quality and quantity of the received scientific results and contributions.

8. Conclusion

The presented scientific publications from head assistant professor Dr. Yana Paliova contain significant scientific and scientific-applied contributions that are available to the scientific community in the country and abroad. Quantitatively and qualitatively, they cover the national minimum requirements in the ZRASRB, the Rules for its implementation, and the additional criteria of the ERI at the BAS for the occupation of the academic position of "Associate Professor". I recommend the Honorable Scientific Jury to propose to the Scientific Council of the Economic Research Institute at the BAS to elect head assistant professor Dr. Yana Paliova for "Associate Professor" in professional direction 3.8 Economics /European public finances/.

12/09/2024

Sofia

Sincerely:

/Prof. Emil Panusheff, PhD/