



DIMITAR A. TSENOV ACADEMY OF ECONOMICS, SVISHTOV

STATEMENT

From: Associate Prof. Dr Margarita Yordanova Bogdanova
Course of Study: *Planning*
Dimitar A. Tsenov Academy of Economics

About: Selection process for the position of “Associate Professor” in the higher education field of
3. Social, economic and legal studies, course of study *3.8. Economics (Finance)* at the
Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen

1. Introduction of the candidate participating in the selection process, the field of study and the department within which the position is opening

The position in the higher education field of *3. Social, Economic and Legal Studies*, course of study *3.8. Economics (Finance)* at the Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen was announced in the State Gazette, issue 27 of April 2, 2021 for the purposes of the department of *Social Work* at the *Faculty of Education*.

The sole candidate for this position is Denitsa Petkova Zagorcheva-Koycheva. She has duly submitted all required documents in accordance with the Academic Staff Development Act of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Academic Staff Development Regulations of the University of Shumen.

2. Occasion for the preparation of the statement

This statement is composed on grounds of Order No. ПД-16-100/31.05.2021 by the Rector of the Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen for the purposes of appointing a Selection Committee to rule during the selection process for the position of “Associate Professor” and reporting on the rulings of their first sitting.

3. Professional profile of the candidate:

Analysis of the professional profile of the candidate Assistant Prof. Dr Denitsa Petkova Zagorcheva-Koycheva indicates a systematic accumulation of multiple relevant competencies over a relatively short period of time. After graduating from the bachelor degree programme *Economics and Business Administration* at the University of Economics in Varna in 1999, she goes on to simultaneously complete a master degree in *Finance* at the Burgas Free University and in *Accounting and Controlling* at the University of Veliko Tarnovo.

She begins her work experience as an accountant at the Shumen city council in 2000, being promoted to head of accounting and to head of the department “Unified Budget Accounting” shortly after. In 2013, she begins her academic career as an assistant at the University of Shumen



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and is promoted to assistant professor after obtaining the academic title “Doctor of Economics” in the higher education field of 3.8. Economics.

The candidate’s experience as a lecturer at the University of Shumen accumulates to 8 years.

Denitsa Petkova Zagorcheva-Koycheva has defended a doctoral thesis on the topic “Research and evaluation of the tax and investment policy of municipalities as a manageable factor of the business environment for industrial companies.”

The candidate commands significant scientific research experience. She has collaborated on 2 international, 4 national and 9 university-level projects. She is head of the Financial Analysis Centre at the University of Shumen. She plays a key role in the organisation of events within the university and her department and in the optimisation of administrative documentation, she is a member of multiple university committees and a technical editor of scientific publications with contributions by degree students.

All these activities are solid proof of the candidate’s competence as a mentor and lecturer, academic assistant, expert, administrator and organiser in the challenging area of higher education.

4. Fulfilment of the national and any additional requirements

Assistant Prof. Dr Denitsa Petkova Zagorcheva-Koycheva, candidate for the position of “Associate Professor” in the selection process at hand, has submitted a *Reference sheet on the fulfilment of the national requirements for the position of Associate Professor under article 2b, paragraph 2 and 3 of the Academic Staff Development Act of the Republic of Bulgaria* in the higher education field of 3. Social, Economic and Legal Studies, in which the fulfilment of the quantifiable criteria is recorded as follows:

4.1. National requirements in accordance with the Academic Staff Development Act of the Republic of Bulgaria (article 2b) and its Application Terms (article 1a, paragraph 1) – fulfilled with a total of **415 (four hundred and fifteen)** points made up of the following:

- **Doctoral dissertation** for the acquisition of the academic title “Doctor”. The topic of the **doctoral thesis** is “Research and evaluation of the tax and investment policy of municipalities as a manageable factor of the business environment for industrial companies”
- **Habilitation thesis** – a monograph. The topic of the **post-doctoral thesis** is “Planning and management of in-house revenue of municipalities through budget simulators”
- Articles and reports published in scientific publications, references and indexed in world-renowned scientific databases. The candidate has submitted one English-language **publication** in co-authorship.
- Articles and reports, published in unreferenced scientific magazines or in edited collective works. The candidate has submitted **12 published titles** – 3 in English, 9 in Bulgarian, all independent works.



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- Citations. Publications by Assistant Prof. Dr Denitsa Zagorcheva-Koycheva have been cited in 11 unreferenced scientific magazines
- 4.2. Fulfilment of the additional requirements in accordance with article 57a, paragraph 2 of the Application Terms of the Academic Staff Development Act of the Republic of Bulgaria. The candidate has submitted:
- List of scientific research projects in which Assistant Prof. Dr Denitsa Zagorcheva-Koycheva has participated
 - Reference sheet of degree courses lectured containing information on 11 bachelor degree courses and 12 master degree courses
 - Reference sheet on non-lecturing activities
 - List of alumni successfully defended a thesis under the supervision of the candidate and degree students under the candidate's supervision during collaboration on a scientific research project
 - Information on the candidate's membership in relevant national associations of good standing in her respective field of study: "Union of Scientists in Bulgaria" (since 2013) and "National Association for Forecasting and Planning" (since 2015, founding member)
 - Information on 2 tested out scientific models: Model for planning and management of in-house revenue of municipalities through budget simulators; Model for research and evaluation of the tax and investment policy of municipalities

All reference sheets on the fulfilment of the quantifiable criteria submitted by Assistant Prof. Dr Denitsa Zagorcheva-Koycheva are in compliance with the requirements.

The presented documents are a clear indicator that **the candidate fulfils all national requirements** according to the Academic Staff Development Act of the Republic of Bulgaria (article 2b) and its Application Terms (article 1a, paragraph 1) **as well as all additional requirements** according to article 57a, paragraph 2 of the Application Terms of the Academic Staff Development Act of the Republic of Bulgaria.

5. Lecturing experience

The academic and lecturing experience of the candidate is closely connected with the object of the position selection process at hand. The lecturing workload of Assistant Prof. Dr Denitsa Zagorcheva-Koycheva is sufficient: She teaches 11 bachelor degree courses and 12 master degree courses.

The accumulated lecturing experience of the candidate is fully sufficient for her promotion to "Associate Professor" at the University of Shumen in the higher education field of 3. *Social, Economic and Legal Studies*, in the course of study 3.8. *Economics (Finance)*.

6. General profile of the academic research work of the candidate



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For the purpose of this selection process, Assistant Prof. Dr Denitsa Zagorcheva-Koycheva has submitted for analysis various academic contributions including one monograph, one publication in a scientific magazine referenced and indexed in world-renown scientific databases, 12 articles and reports published in unreferenced scientific magazines or published in edited collective works. A great part of these publications have been cited in the works of degree students or other researchers, attesting to the positive response to her hypotheses and the results of her scientific research.

The candidate's publications are the product of in-depth research and cover various topics in the field of economics and finance, most notably in the area of public business. Assistant Prof. Dr Denitsa Zagorcheva-Koycheva displays perfect knowledge of the theoretical foundations and norms of her field of research and has the ability to competently analyse and interpret them. The candidate's academic investigations are backed up by practical analysis, research data is processed with the help of accessible software. Her distinguished drive to test out scientific models helps the author to narrow the results down to conclusions and suggestions applicable in practice which would effectively optimise processes in institutions of the public sector.

7. Academic contributions of the candidate

I acknowledge the duly formulated and summarised academic contributions of the candidate, which correctly reflect the results of her scientific research work.

I attribute the **academic contributions** by Dr Zagorcheva-Koycheva in the following subject categories to her more significant work:

- Development and testing of a new model for planning and management of in-house revenue of municipalities through budget simulators
- Development of a methodological apparatus for the argumentation of budget planning decisions
- Development and testing of a methodology for testing the interdependence of the tax and investment policy of municipalities and their dependence on the level of advancement of the local industry

8. Critical remarks and suggestions

I have no criticism toward the documents submitted for this selection process. My long-term advice to the candidate is to focus on scientific research projects and publications in scientific magazines which are referenced and indexed in world-renown scientific databases.

9. Concluding remarks and final statement

In conclusion and based on the set of documents and publications submitted by the candidate, I give my **approval** and confirm that Assistant Prof. Dr Denitsa Zagorcheva-Koycheva fulfils all



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requirements for the position of “Associate Professor” in accordance with the Academic Staff Development Act of the Republic of Bulgaria.

I nominate the candidate Assistant Prof. Dr Denitsa Petkova Zagorcheva-Koycheva for the position of “Associate Professor” in the higher education field of 3. *Social, Economic and Legal Studies*, course of study 3.8. *Economics (Finance)* for the purposes of the department of *Social Work* within the *Faculty of Education* at the Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen, and hope the Selection Committee endorses my decision.

July 30, 2021
Svishtov

Reviewer:

Prof. Dr Margarita Bogdanova