

SCIENTIFIC OPINION

by **Stanislav Dimitrov Petkov,**

Associate Professor, PhD, at the Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia, VUZF - Sofia

of the materials submitted for participation in the competition

for the academic position of '**Associate Professor**'

of Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia, VUZF - Sofia

in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences

professional field 3.8. Economics , Money circulation and monetary systems (Development of
monetary systems and coinage)

In the competition for 'associate professor', announced in the State Gazette, issue 95 of 16.11.2021 and in the website of the Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia, as a candidate participates Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva, hon. lecturer at the Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia.

1. General presentation of the procedure and the candidate

By order № 40 of 02.03.2022 of the Rector of the Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia I was appointed a member of the scientific jury of a competition for the academic position of 'Associate Professor' at the Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional field 3.8. Economics "Money circulation and monetary systems (Development of monetary systems and coinage), announced by the Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia.

The only candidate for participation in the announced competition has submitted documents, namely Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva, hon. lecturer at the Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia.

Presented by Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva set of materials on paper and in electronic form is in full compliance with the Regulations on the terms and conditions for holding academic positions at the Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia, and includes the following documents :

- application form for admission to the competition;
- CV in European format;
- a copy of the diploma for the educational and scientific degree "Doctor";
- monographic work with a summary, reviewed by two habilitated persons;
- list of publications after the defense of the doctoral dissertation;
- summaries in Bulgarian and English of the publications after the defense of the doctoral dissertation;
- separation protocols for joint publications;
- reference for the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position "Associate Professor";
- reference for the original scientific contributions in the works and for the citations;
- Consent form for the processing of personal data in connection with the participation in the competition.

The documents presented by the candidate Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva are characterized by order, completeness and integrity.

On the basis of the presented documents and in particular of the presented autobiography, it can be concluded that the candidate Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva has significant experience in research. Also, Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva shows significant experience in practice - over 20 years of experience in the field of financial services, precious metals transactions, investment advice and expertise in a commercial bank in Bulgaria. Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva has consistently obtained a master's degree from Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of History, PhD from the University of Friborg, Switzerland and Postgraduate Qualification "Financial Management" from UNWE, Institute for Postgraduate Qualification.

I have no personal impressions of the candidate, except for those acquired during the procedure of this competition.

2. General characteristics of the candidate's activity

The candidate Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva shows a very good educational and pedagogical activity.

The scientific and scientific-applied activity of the candidate Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva can be assessed as very good, fully compliant with the requirements of this competition. In the current procedure for the competition for "Associate Professor" Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva participates with the following works: a monograph - habilitation work, which is an independent development; a monograph that is not a major habilitation thesis; thirteen articles, four of which are co-authored; three studios, two of which are co-authored; one published chapter of a collective monograph.

The publications of the candidate Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva have clear scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions.

It makes a very good positive impression that the author successfully manages to develop both independent research and jointly with other authors.

Another very positive moment of the scientific activity of the candidate Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva is the fact that the publications are in various renowned journals and on the occasion of scientific conferences.

In addition, a positive attestation of the author's qualities is the fact that some of the publications are in foreign languages.

From the content point of view, the monograph presented for the purposes of the competition is extremely interesting and up-to-date. The title of the monograph is "Monetary system and coinage of modern Bulgaria (1880-2021)". In the presented monograph the author analyzes significant processes in the political and economic history of the country, which determine the changes in its issuance policy and monetary standards. All coins issued during the specified period are presented. Emphasis is placed on the more significant and unusual in the monetary policy of the modern Bulgarian state.

The monograph includes an introduction, two chapters, an illustrated catalog, in which there are four separate parts, a glossary and appendices.

I accept as the author's contributions the generalized presentation of all Bulgarian samples and official coin issues from 1880 to 2021, as well as the overall consideration of the monetary system and coinage of Bulgaria, in the context of political and economic history. Another contribution is the analysis of valuable documents related to the monetary system and coinage by the Bulgarian state archives. The author's contribution is the study of coin-shaped monuments (medals, medallions, jewelry, etc.), directly related to the Bulgarian coinage and its state regulation.

From a research point of view, it would be good for the author to seek answers to questions related to the plans for the introduction of the euro and the replacement of the Bulgarian lev in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Based on the submitted documentation on the procedure of this competition I can make a reasonable assessment of the presence of a clear personal contribution of the candidate Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva in the relevant publications, and fully formulated contributions and results are her personal merit.

Based on the submitted information on the implementation of national minimum requirements according to the Law on Environmental Protection and the Regulations for its implementation, it can be concluded that the candidate Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva meets the relevant criteria as follows: Group "A" - 50 points with a minimum of 50 points; group "B" - 100 points with a minimum of 100 points; group „Г“ - 245 points with a minimum of 200 points; group "D" - 55 points with a minimum of 50 points.

3. Critical remarks and recommendations

I do not have significant principled or formal critical remarks and recommendations to the scientific works and activities of the candidate Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva.

I can recommend Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova-Gencheva to deepen her research in the field of issues related to the plans for the introduction of the euro and the replacement of the Bulgarian lev in the Republic of Bulgaria. I am convinced that the author will contribute to the achievement of future scientific and scientific-applied contributions in the researched areas.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials submitted by the candidate Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva meet all the requirements of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the

Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for application of the Law and the respective Regulations on the terms and conditions for holding academic positions at the Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia.

In the works of the candidate there are original scientific and applied contributions, which have received international recognition as a representative part of them are published in journals and scientific journals published by international academic publishers. Her theoretical developments have practical applicability, as some of them are directly oriented to the educational work. The scientific and teaching qualification of the candidate Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva is undoubted.

The results achieved by the candidate Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva in teaching and research fully comply with the specific requirements of the Regulations on the terms and conditions for holding academic positions at the Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia.

After getting acquainted with the materials and scientific papers presented in the competition, analysis of their importance and contained in them scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions, I find it reasonable to give my **positive assessment** and recommend to the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Academic Council of the Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia **for election of Dr. Valentina Grigorova Grigorova - Gencheva to the academic position of 'Associate Professor'** at the Higher School of Insurance and Finance - Sofia in the field of research 3.8. Economics "Money circulation and monetary systems (Development of monetary systems and coinage).

02.04.2022

Prepared the opinion:

(Associate Professor, PhD Stanislav Dimitrov)