

REVIEW

by Associate Professor Dr. Sc. Maksym Bezpartochnyi – professional field 3.8. Economics, National Aerospace University named after Zhukovsky “Kharkiv Aviation Institute”

of the materials submitted for participation in the competition for the academic position of „Professor“ at the Higher School of Insurance and Finance in the field of higher education 3. Social, Economic and Legal Sciences, professional field 3.8. Economy (Green Economy and Agribusiness)

In the competition for the academic position of „Professor“, announced in the State Gazette, 22 / 18.03.2022 and on the website of the Higher School of Insurance and Finance, as a candidate participates Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz from the West Pomeranian University of Technology (Poland).

1. General presentation of materials received

By order № 126 of 30.05.2022 of the Rector of the Higher School of Insurance and Finance I was appointed a member of the scientific jury for a competition to fill the academic post of “Professor“ at VUZF, in higher education 3. Social, Economic and Legal Sciences, professional field 3.8. Economy (Green Economy and Agribusiness).

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz is the only candidate in the competition. He presented the following materials for review:

- Certificate of the scientific position held at the West Pomeranian University of Technology;
- Curriculum vitae;
- Copy of the diploma for the educational and scientific degree “Doctor”;
- Copy of the diploma for the educational and scientific degree “Doctor of Science”;
- Habilitation work – monograph;
- List of publications after defending a doctoral dissertation;
- Abstract of publications;
- Information on scientific contributions in publications and citations;
- Texts of scientific publications, accompanied by separation protocols in the presence of co-authorship;
- Information of defended doctoral students;
- Information of participation in projects;
- Medical certificate;

- Certificate of no criminal record;
- Consent form for the processing of personal data in relation to the participation in the competition.

The candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz has submitted a total of 309 scientific papers, including 1 monograph, 29 articles and reports, published scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information. The candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz has the following publications in world scientometric databases: SCOPUS – 7, Web of Science – 35. The candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz has citations: SCOPUS – 25, Web of Science – 43, Google Scholar – 398. The candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz has participated in research projects with a total economic impact of 455,000 euros. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz is the scientific supervisor of 3 successfully defended doctoral dissertations in the field of Economics. Total number of points in the reference for the scientometric indicators of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz is 394, which is twice the required amount.

2. Brief biographical data on the candidate

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz holds a Master's degree (Food Technology – 1994 from Agricultural University in Szczecin). In 1998 he was awarded the academic degree “Doctor” (PhD) in the doctoral program „Agriculture” at the Agricultural-Technical Academy “Michal Ochapovski” (diploma No. 1270/01.06.1999). In 2009 he was awarded the academic degree “Doctor of Science” (Dr. Sc.) at the Institute of System Research in the Agro-Food Complex of the Academy of Sciences of the BSSR in Minsk (diploma No. DN 00764/16.12.2009), habilitation in the field of Economics and Management of the National Economy, in 2011 the nostrification process took place in University of Economics in Poznan. Since 2012, Professor at the West Pomeranian University of Technology. The candidate has additional professional education abroad, in countries such as Great Britain, Denmark, Israel, Sweden, and Latvia.

Total work experience 26 years: assistant, lecturer, head of department, professor. Academic career Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz started in 1994 as an Assistant Professor at the Department of Economic Policy and Market at the Agricultural University in Szczecin.. From 1998 to 2008 he worked as a Lecturer at the Department of Agricultural Development and Food Economics at the University of Agriculture in Szczecin. In the period 2009 - 2018, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz works as head of departments at the West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin. In 2019 - 2019 Professor of Regional and European Studies at the West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin. In the period 2009 - 2018, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz

Mickiewicz worked as Head of Department at the West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin. In 2019 - 2019 - Professor of Regional and European Studies at the West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin.

The candidate for the competition has extensive practical experience. He is a member of the Latvian University of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences in Riga (since 07.06.2013), Chairman of the Board of the scientific association „Institute for Economics and Markets”, Member of the expert association SITR – Agricultural Engineers and Technicians in Koszalin, President of the European Institute for Sustainable Development in Szczecin, Member of the Polish Economic Association, Member of the Dolny Poland Association of Agricultural Consultants, Member of the Eurasian Society of Business and Economics (EKES), Member of the Royal Economic Society of Great Britain.

In the period 1994 - 2022. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz participated in the development and implementation of the following research projects funded by the PHARE Foundation, the Ministry of Higher Education, the Polish Research Committee:

1. „Conditions of social-economic development of border rural areas and small towns in the Western Pomerania region“, Scientific Research Committee project no. 5 PO 6J1217, manager of the project.

2. „Role of the agricultural extension in the process of family farms restructuring in Western Pomerania”, Scientific Research Committee project no. 5 S 30902106, research made in 1994-1996, member of research team.

3. „Conditions and creation of structural changes process in farms in the North Poland in aspect of integration with the European Union”, Scientific Research Committee project no. 5 PO6J 03013, member of research team.

4. „Ownership transformation in agricultural sector of Belorussia Republic“, research made in 1996-1999 in Belarusian Agricultural University in Gorki, member of research team.

5. „Socio-economic activation of rural areas in the context of structural changes and integration processes with the European Union”, PHARE project, no. PL 9704-01-01, manager of project.

6. “Factors of success and failures during process of creation and introducing of local strategy of rural areas development”, Scientific Research Committee project, manager of project.

7. „Environmental, social and economic aspects of implementation and realization of Agri-Environmental programs in North and West Poland“, Scientific Research Committee project, manager of project.

8. „Economic-ecological factors and barriers of development of coastal areas in Poland”,

Scientific Research Committee project, manager of project.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz speaks Polish, Russian, German, English and Croatian. He is a member the international editorial board of the scientific journal VUZF REVIEW.

The areas of scientific interest of the candidate in the competition are: green economy and agribusiness.

The above is proof of the desire of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz to constantly improve his skills and is an indication of professionalism and focus in her work and extensive practical experience.

3. General characteristics of the candidate's activity

According to information provided by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz is the supervisor of 3 doctoral dissertations completed with the award of the degree of Doctor to the following persons:

1. Milena Bera – the title of the dissertation: “Development factors of communes located in naturally valuable areas in north-eastern Poland“. Date of defence of the doctoral dissertation: November 29, 2013

2. Monika Pradziadowicz - the title of the dissertation: “Assessment of selected conditions for the implementation and realization of the agri-environmental program in Poland on the example of the West Pomeranian province“. Date of defence of the doctoral dissertation: June 22, 2016

3. Sebastian Lisiak - the title of the dissertation: „Conditions for the development of green economy in rural areas on the example of the Wielkopolska province“. Date of defence of the doctoral dissertation: March 11, 2022.

All topics of doctoral students' work are related to the professional field 3.8. Economics (Green Economy and Agribusiness) for the academic position of „Professor“.

The presented reference for fulfilment of the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para 2 and 3 of ZRASRB for holding the academic position “professor” in 3.8 “Economics” shows fulfilment of the cumulative quantitative requirements, formed by the components under section I. National minimum requirements according to ZRASRB (art. 2b) and the Regulations for its application (art. 1a, para 1).

The number of points required to meet the national minimum requirements is accumulated as follows:

- Defended dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific degree „Doctor“ on the topic: “Agriculture in Central Pomeranian in the aspect of property transformation in 1992-1996“ (50 points);

- Defended dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific degree „Doctor of Science“ on the topic: “Problems of sustainable development of Polish agriculture: theory, methodology, practice“ (40 points);

- Habilitation work – monograph on the topic: „Green economy and agribusiness: new agrarian transformation in Belarus“ (100 points);

- Articles and reports published in scientific journals, links and indexes in world famous databases of scientific information (29 vols.) (90 vols., in co-authorship – 318,3 points);

- 9 vols. citations in scientific journals, references and indexing in the world famous database (135 points);

- 3 doctoral students were supervised, who successfully defended their dissertations and received the degree „Doctor“ (120 points);

- Participation in 2 international scientific and educational projects - Social-economic activation of rural areas in the context of structural changes and integration processes with the European Union. PHARE project, Number of project: 112/273/2000, (20 points); European Union project: “Common Agricultural Policy – Back to countryside” – no. 2012/C223/04. The project was implemented in 2010-2011 in Lithuania, Latvia and Poland (20 points).

The main **habilitation work** – monograph with which Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz participates in the competition is on the topic “*Green economy and agribusiness: new agrarian transformation in Belarus*“. The monograph is written in English. The volume of the study is 221 pages. The monograph is structured in an introduction, an exposition in five chapters, a conclusion and used literature. The bibliography lists 337 sources of information. Many of them are quoted in the main presentation. The citation is correct. 47 figures and 48 tables are included. The tabular and graphic material contains a correct indication of the sources of information.

The relevance of the topic of the “green economy” is indisputable. Currently, scientists are looking for ways to develop the agricultural business. The author proposes a methodological approach for assessing the innovative potential of agribusiness and substantiates the directions of innovative development of agribusiness on an integration basis. The author’s recommendations are aimed at the need for the production of innovative and environmentally friendly products. The implementation of the proposed inventions is envisaged, contributing to the solution of a set of theoretical and methodological problems of increasing the efficiency and sustainable development of agribusiness on the principles of “green economy” and the production of organic products. In my opinion, this presupposes a comprehensive view of the scientific field of the issue.

The following merits of the peer-reviewed work deserve a positive assessment: a clearly set goal and tasks of the research, as well as a well-formulated scientific hypothesis; detailed structure of

the research - the issues included in the content fully cover the role of agribusiness, state regulation of agrarian policy in the Republic of Belarus, the introduction of foreign experience in the sustainable development of agribusiness; modeling of sustainable development of agribusiness on an integration basis.

An important contribution of the study is the support of the author's statement that the principles of "green economy" are possible promising directions for the innovative development of agribusiness, as well as recommendations for the production of innovative and environmentally friendly products that are in demand in the consumer market.

The critical review of the relationship between sustainable development and economic, social and environmental aspects presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz, which describes in detail the mechanism for the transition to a "green economy" through sustainable pricing, public procurement policies, increased public investment in sustainable infrastructure and natural capital, targeted public support for scientific research and development related to environmentally friendly technologies, social policy.

With the role of scientific contribution I can qualify the proof of the thesis that that the development of a „green economy” involves solving environmental problems while ensuring economic security, social stability and creating favorable conditions for the resumption of sustainable economic growth. The author emphasizes that the sustainable development of agribusiness is a dynamic process of positive balanced economic, social and environmental changes, taking into account external and internal factors, aimed at increasing production efficiency, rational use of natural resources and social development. In addition, the author finds interrelated and interdependent structural components that characterize the sustainable development of the agro-industrial complex in relation to the goal: economic (production and financial), social and environmental sustainability.

The author pointed out the need to diversify activities and create innovative clusters in agribusiness. The cluster approach to increasing the competitiveness of manufacturing organizations is to reduce the cost of production due to the availability of resources and services offered by specialized organizations, due to strict contractual relations and proximity to resource suppliers; reduction of overhead costs and co-financing of investment projects.

In order to optimize the production and marketing activities of processing enterprises, it is proposed to create an innovative cluster. The necessary calculations were made and the economic effect was determined. The main promising direction is the effectiveness of modeling the activities of agricultural organizations in the development of innovative business processes in a competitive environment.

The author's style is academic, but at the same time pleasant and fascinating to read. A very pleasant impression made by the author's approach to summarizing the conclusions after each chapter of the monograph. I have no comments on the monograph.

The importance of publishing is evidenced by the fact that the dissertation and articles were written in English and posted on the pages of prestigious international publications - in Scopus (7 vols.) and Web of Science (35 vols.). In support of this conclusion, references are given to quotations from 55 references and quotations from publications of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz by foreign authors.

Among the most **significant scientific, methodological and practical-applied** contributions of the candidate in the competition are the following:

- 1). Theoretical and methodological foundations for the sustainable development of agribusiness based on the principles of the „green economy“ have been developed.
- 2). Solutions for the development of the village and the potential for their impact on the functioning of economic entities are proposed.
- 3). New methods for assessing the innovative potential of agribusiness are considered.
- 4). A methodology for constructing an index of agricultural sustainability is proposed.
- 5). Participation in the development of the concept of changes in the Common Agricultural Policy in the European Union.

I accept **the scientific and practical** - applied contributions of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz presented in the list to the documents for participation in the competition as realistic and actually proven. These contributions in the individual thematic areas can be summarized as the use of fundamental scientific knowledge and its transformation into specific applied knowledge, the introduction of new and supplementing existing requirements to the “green economy” and agribusiness.

4. Assessment of the personal contribution of the candidate

A certain scientific and applied scientific contribution belongs to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Bartosz Mickiewicz. He correctly reflected his own results of his research work. Joint team activity is objectively indicated, co-authors are indicated. All used literature and electronic sources are also presented accurately and correctly.

5. Critical remarks and recommendations

I have no critical remarks or recommendations. I wish the candidate to continue his scientific-research work.

6. Personal impressions

I personally do not know the candidate, but based on his biography, teaching and research work, and a lot of hard work in the monograph, I got a positive impression as a Professor.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials submitted by Bartosz Mickiewicz **comply with all the requirements** of the Bulgarian Academic Staff Development Act, Implementing Rules thereof, and the relevant Rules of VUZF.

The candidate in the competition has submitted a **significant** number of research papers published after the materials used to defend his „Doctor” and “Doctor of Science” degrees. The candidate’s works feature original theoretical and applied research contributions that have been internationally recognized, with a representative part of them having been published in journals and scientific collections issued by international academic publishers. His works have practical relevance, some being directly oriented toward research and learning. Bartosz Mickiewicz’s research and teaching qualifications are **undoubted and were acquired over the years of research and academic development in Poland and other countries**. Bartosz Mickiewicz’s learning and research achievements are **fully** in line with the VUZF’s Implementing Rules for the Bulgarian Academic Staff Development Act.

Having examined the monograph and research works presented in the competition, analyzed their relevance, and theoretical and applied research contributions contained therein, I consider it reasonable and fully convincing to give my **positive assessment**, and I hereby recommend that the scientific jury draw up a report to the Academic Council of VUZF for the election of Bartosz Mickiewicz to the academic position of „Professor“ in the professional field 3.8 “Economics“ (Green Economy and Agribusiness).

17 June 2022

Reviewer: 

/ Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sc. Maksym Bezpartochnyi /