

REVIEW

by: Prof. Dr. Milen Ivanov Baltov,

member of the scientific jury in the competition for the academic position "professor" in the professional field 3.8. Economy (Microeconomics, macroeconomics, human capital)

announced for the needs of CIUN at Burgas Free University, in SG no. 25 of March 26, 2021

Pursuant to Order № UMO-1123 / 19.05.2021 of the Rector of Burgas Free University, for the appointment of a Scientific Jury for the selection of "Professor" I have been appointed as a reviewer of the competition.

The submitted documentation is in the required volume and complies with the Regulations for application of the Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for development of the academic staff in BSU.

One candidate, namely Assoc. Prof. Dr. Maria Ivanova Neycheva, submitted documents in the announced competition.

1. Presentation of the candidate for participation in the competition

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Maria Ivanova Neycheva graduated with honors from the Mathematical High School - Burgas, and in 1991 graduated from the Technical University - Sofia, where she graduated in "Automation and Systems Engineering". After completing his first higher education, he completed a professional qualification in Business Administration at the University of National and World Economy and a master's degree in Economics at BSU. During the period 2003-2007 he was a part-time doctoral student at the Department of General Economic Theory at the University of Economics - Varna. In 2007 he defended a dissertation on "Nonlinear

effects of government spending in the Bulgarian economy" and received the educational and scientific degree "Doctor". Teaching and lecturing began in 1991 at the Business College, Sofia. In the period 1993 - 1997 he was a lecturer at the University of National and World Economy.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Maria Neycheva has been a full-time lecturer at BSU since 2003. She gives lectures and seminars on the subjects Microeconomics and Economics and Transnational and Multinational Corporations and Banks taught at the University. Since 2012 she has been an associate professor. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Neycheva speaks and uses English, Russian and German and has conducted a number of complementary specializations in economics and macroeconomics in Belgium, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary. He is a member of the European Economic Association and expert groups at the European Commission. Since 2014, for two terms, Assoc. Prof. Neycheva has been Deputy Dean of the Center for Economic and Management Sciences at BSU. I find that the accumulated teaching experience is completely sufficient to acquire the academic position of professor.

2. Personal characteristics, compliance with the legal requirements of the candidate and quantitative measures

- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Maria Ivanova Neycheva works on a basic employment contract at BSU and has submitted the required full set of documents for participation in the competition for the academic position "Professor".
- On this basis, the candidate can be judged:
- The educational and scientific degree "Doctor" is in the same scientific field in which the competition was announced;
- There are two peer-reviewed independent monographs on the topic of the competition;
- She has presented 18 scientific publications outside the dissertation and the two monographs, 12 of which are in foreign editions, which do

not repeat those presented for obtaining the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" and are mainly indexed in world databases;

- Availability of a published independent textbook and textbook and materials, incl. electronic.
- She has participated in numerous research and applied projects at national and international level, including as a leader of two projects.

It can be concluded that in terms of the minimum requirements and criteria and indicators of BSU for evaluation of teaching and research work, the candidate significantly exceeds the requirements.

Group of indicators	Content	Requirement	Performance
A	Indicator 1. Dissertation work for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor"	50	50
C	Indicator 3. Habilitation work - monograph	100	100
D	Sum of indicators from 4 to 10	200	315
E	Sum of indicators from 11 to 13	100	145
F	Sum of indicators from 14 to the end	100	180
	Total	550	790

In addition to 2 monographs, the presented publications include 2 studies, 14 articles and scientific reports and 2 textbooks, as well as electronic teaching materials. The candidate's scientific publications are in authoritative scientific publications, including 4 of them in foreign publications in Scopus or Web of Science. The citation reference contains 10 citations of the candidate's publications, 8 of which are by authors in publications indexed in Scopus or Web of Science. The documents of this competition also certify that the candidate has participated in 6 research and

applied projects, four of which are commissioned by international and national organizations, and two of which he is also the head of BSU.

In addition to all the above, in our country the candidate speaks with her accurate hits on scientific topics, as well as with their competent analysis and clear presentation in high scientific language. Has indisputable organizational skills, is able to work highly effectively in a team. She is known as a competent specialist who is characterized by extreme precision and scientific dignity.

3. Qualitative assessment of the criteria and indicators for research

With regard to monographs, the main topics are human capital, measured by the education of the workforce, and its impact on long-term economic development. Another main direction in the candidate's work is the study of the dependence "education of the labor force - labor market and qualification discrepancies - economic growth". The candidate's efforts are focused on these scientific issues and they are the subject of research in the majority of the presented materials: the main habilitation work, the publications in the periodicals and the presented reports.

The author seriously develops neoclassical models of growth with human capital, differentiating the influence of different educational levels - secondary and higher and deduces the distinction of vertical qualification discrepancies (over-education in higher education) from qualification correspondences. Builds a theoretical framework for the channels and mechanisms of influence of qualification discrepancies on the total product.

The candidate systematizes the factors for the qualification discrepancies by distinguishing the factors on the part of the demand for a certain type of education (educational degree) from those arising from the supply of a certain type of education (educational degree). A method for estimating the vertical qualification discrepancies in employees with higher education (ISCED 5-8) is proposed, which combines the static approach of the matrix of correspondences with the statistical approach based on the average educational level for a given type of employment.

Several of the indexed articles systematize the main theoretical statements in the field of multinational enterprise and analysis of comprehensive empirical material on foreign direct investment and applied practices in the activities of multinational corporations. The six studies and seven articles provide empirical evidence of the link between public spending on education and the rate of long-term growth in EU countries.

A textbook, additionally a manual and electronic materials with the nature of a manual are indicated. On the one hand, they cover lecture courses, such as microeconomics for students in bachelor's and master's programs in economics. In addition, problems and test questions are added to each topic, and at the end of the presentation, basic mathematical dependencies used in economics are summarized. On the other hand, they support (through a collection of tests) the mastering of the lecture material on microeconomics, the students are introduced to the respective topic through questions for strengthening the basic concepts, expressions and concepts.

Through her numerous appearances, the candidate focused the attention of the participants in these conferences on current issues, issues and directions of macroeconomics and dynamics in development. She is bold and responsible in defending her position. Enters areas that are particularly relevant such as the labor market and the relationship education - realization. Investigates the processes in the tourism sector, which is a priority for the country, but underestimated by the scientific point.

4. Compliance with research contributions

The scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the candidate are of theoretical and practical-applied nature. The scientific contributions are indisputable and highlighted in the following theoretical and applied directions. The author comparatively analyzes the quantitative and qualitative state of human capital in the Bulgarian economy and in other EU member states of CEE. A detailed study of the concept of measuring human capital has been carried out, assuming that it is formed in secondary and higher education. Considering opportunities for economic growth in

small, open economies. Emphasis is placed on the role of human capital, as the amount of human capital is approximated by the costs of education in the public sector, as well as by the share of the labor force with at least secondary education. This allows important and significant conclusions to be drawn in view of the potential for economic growth for the long-term prospects of the Bulgarian economy.

Practical contributions are also available. A serious empirical assessment of the neoclassical model of growth with human capital has been made, in the absence and in the presence of limitations on the parameters in the model for the new EU member states. Systematic analysis of scientific publications in the databases with scientific literature Scopus and Web of Science in the period 1996-2019, giving empirical assessments of the effect of human capital (education) on overall activity and growth in the new EU member states is accompanied by an empirical assessment of the influence of foreign language learning in secondary school as one of the indicators of the quality of the workforce on the overall activity in European countries.

Textbooks and publications with educational and methodological character have been developed to ensure the learning process and the formation of knowledge and skills in the taught disciplines. The candidate successfully applies the case method in the training.

5. Notes and recommendations

Despite its serious international and national appearances so far, including in the work of the candidate, it is desirable to be even more critical of the Bulgarian practice on the labor market, especially in the services sector - it will be valuable to study the problems of the labor market and in terms of territorial processes - immigration and emigration between the planning regions, at the district level and at the level of industrial zones.

A little researched in Bulgaria area that deserves the candidate's attention is the study of the state of the providers of human resources development services - training organizations, recruitment agencies, consultants. I wish Assoc. Prof.

Neycheva to work actively with young researchers and doctoral students in order to pass on her accumulated scientific experience.

The critical remarks made are not of such a nature as to challenge the candidate's contributions to the academic position of "professor".

CONCLUSION

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Maria Ivanova Neycheva in her capacity as a candidate for the academic position of "Professor" meets the accepted national minimum and recommended to BSU scientific and scientometric requirements. The scientific production of the candidate contains results representing scientific and scientific-applied contributions; it is aimed at improving the theory and practice; contains summaries of results obtained through research. Her teaching work presents her as an excellent university lecturer, and her publications in prestigious journals and appearances at national and international forums have given her a certain authority and name in the scientific community.

I find sufficient grounds to propose Assoc. Prof. Dr. Maria Ivanova Neycheva to be elected to the academic position of "professor" in the professional field 3.8. - Economics (Microeconomics, macroeconomics, human capital), according to the competition announced for the needs of CIUN at Burgas Free University. I am convinced that taking the academic position of "professor" will be deserved and will give her good opportunities for future research and performance as a lecturer, and the University quality staff with a contribution to its management and prosperity.

19.07.2021 г.

Reviewer, member of scientific jury:

Prof. Milen Ivanov Baltov, PhD