

OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Julia Dobрева, Higher School of Insurance and Finance
on the materials submitted for participation in the competition
to occupy the academic position '**professor**'
at Burgas Free University

by field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences
professional direction 3.8. Economics (World Economy, MES and Behavioral Eco-
nomics), announced in SG No. 55 / 15.07.2022

In the competition for 'professor', announced in the State Gazette, no. 55 / 15.07.2022 and on the website of Burgas Free University, as the only candidate participating is Prof. Dr. Diana Sabotnova Mladenova from Burgas Free University.

1. General presentation of the received materials

By order No. RD 176 dated 07.09.2022 of the Rector of Burgas Free University, I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury of a competition for the academic position of 'professor' at BSU - CIUN, in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional direction 3.8. Economics (World Economy, MES and Behavioral Economics).

Only one candidate submitted documents for participation in the announced competition: Assoc. Dr. Diana Sabotnova Mladenova from Burgas Free University

The set of electronic materials presented by Associate Professor Diana Sabotnova is in accordance with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of BFU and includes the following documents:

1. Creative CV;

2. Diploma for acquired educational and scientific degree "doctor";
3. Reference for the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements defined in the RASRB and in the regulations for its implementation;
4. Reference for the fulfillment of the additional requirements for occupying the academic position "professor" at the Center for Economic and Management Sciences of BSU;
5. Reference to the original scientific contributions;
6. List of publications, together with the publications themselves, separate protocols for joint publications and summaries of scientific works;
7. List of publications that cited the candidate;
8. Reference for participation in projects;
9. Reference for training courses included in the e-learning platform;
10. Certificate of classroom employment (certificate of internship in the specialty);

Other documents required for the purposes of the competition

Candidate Associate Professor Dr. Diana Sabotnova submitted a total of 35 scientific works, 8 studies, 1 monograph after habilitation for "docent", 2 textbooks and 25 scientific publications/articles in peer-reviewed publications. 35 scientific works that are not the dissertation are accepted for review and 6 research projects (5 national and 1 international) are considered in the final evaluation.

All the publications presented are in accordance with the requirements of ZARAS and the Rules for its implementation, and the minimum national requirements have been met.

2. Brief biographical data (of the applicant/s)

Assoc. Dr. Diana Sabotnova is a doctor of economics, she defended her dissertation at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences on the topic "Macroeconomic Consequences of Population Aging" on 12.07.2012. For the period 2000-2022, she successively held the positions of assistant, chief assistant and associate professor of economics (political economy).

3. General characteristics of the applicant's activity

Prof. Sabotnova has published 2 textbooks and is the author of 6 online electronic courses for bachelors and masters, and for the period 2016-2022, she has more than 2000 hours of classroom work.

Evaluation of the candidate's scientific and scientific-applied activity

In the presented habilitation work, **a monograph with the title "International-domestic production" (2022)**, the three leading trends of modern economies are of interest, which Associate Professor Sabotnova singles out and indicates as the reason for the transformation of international production - technological trends and the new industrial revolution leading to the promotion of investment in new sectors, global trends in economic management and increasing protectionism, more regulation and intervention in international economic relations, as well as trends in sustainable development, especially in terms of adapting to changing climate and pollution reduction measures.

The monograph is appropriately structured in 4 chapters.

The other publications highlight interesting, diverse and current topics on which Associate Professor Sabotnova has worked in recent years, among them: gender equality and its influence on the competitive advantage of the Bulgarian economy, the cultural characteristics of Bulgarian management and its behavioral profile, Bulgarian culture

and organizational leadership, digital technologies in production processes, the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic on the future of employment and changes in trade flows, transnational cooperation in the context of intelligent specialization, the circular economy, etc. .

The emphasis placed on the role of women in economic life, gender equality in management and business environments, as well as the challenges facing modern economies to achieve sustainable development, makes a very good impression.

Among the publications of Associate Professor Sabotnova, two textbooks stand out - World Economics (2015) and Behavioral Economics (2022). The contribution of the second textbook is particularly significant, given the topicality of the discipline and its still insufficiently good implementation in the curricula of higher schools. This makes Prof. Sabotnova's textbook significant and very useful for teaching students in bachelor's and master's courses, with the aim of better familiarizing them with this modern discipline and understanding the psychological aspects of the behavior of economic agents and their impact on economic models .

Among the scientific research contributions, the following stand out as particularly significant:

1. The theories of international production are systematized.
2. A study of Bulgarian culture and organizational leadership was conducted.
3. An empirical study was conducted to measure the Gross National Happiness Index.
4. Data on the perception of gender roles in Bulgarian business management were analyzed.
5. The economic impact of pandemics has been studied.

6. The history of the idea of guaranteed income has been traced and systematized.

In the reference for citations, 17 citations are indicated in scientific works, of which 6 are in monographs and the rest in scientific articles, which fulfills the set minimum of 100 points in sector D of the minimum scientometric requirements.

4. Critical remarks and recommendations

I have no specific criticisms. I wish Associate Professor Sabotinoва to continue her research on the technological transformations of production, focusing on the characteristics of national production. It would be interesting during the presentation to the jury for "Professor" Assoc. Sabotinoва to comment on what, in her opinion, are the competitive advantages of the Bulgarian economy in modern conditions.

5. Personal impressions

I have no personal impressions, as I have not worked together with Associate Professor Diana Sabotinoва before, but after my detailed acquaintance with her research activity, I am convinced that she is consistent and meticulous in terms of the goals and tasks set, as well as that she demonstrates high potential for scientific research.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials presented by Assoc. Dr. Diana Sabotinoва meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of the ZRASRB and the relevant Regulations of VUZF.

The candidate in the competition has submitted a sufficient number of scientific works published after the materials used in the defence of the PhD ("doctor") and associate professor. The candidate's works contain original scientific and applied contributions that have received international recognition, a representative part of which has been

published in journals and scientific collections issued by international academic publishing houses. The theoretical developments have practical applicability, and some of them are directly oriented to the academic work. The scientific and teaching qualifications of Assoc. Dr. Diana Sabotinoва are unquestionable.

The results achieved by Assoc. Dr. Diana Sabotinoва in the educational and research activities are fully in line with the Rules of the BSU for the application of ZRASRB.

After getting acquainted with the materials and scientific works presented in the competition, analyzing their significance and the scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions contained in them, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment and to recommend the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Academic Council for the election of Assoc. Dr. Diana Sabotinoва to the academic position of 'professor' at BSU - CIUN in professional direction 3.8. Economics (World Economy, MES and Behavioral Economics).

10.10. 2022

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Prof. Dr. Julia Dobreva, VUZF