

OPINION

**By Associate professor Dr. Nevyanka Kaneva, member of competition's scientific,
announced by the Burgas Free University in SG, № 55 from 15.07.2022,
to occupy an academic position "associate professor"
by professional direction 3.7. "Administration and Management"**

1. Overall assessment of the candidate

Doctor Hasan Azis Ismail participates in the current competition as the author of two monographic works, one textbook, three studies, six articles and four reports. Hasan Ismail's publications clearly show a broad literary awareness in the field of local politics, municipal administrations and local self-government. In his publications, he correctly refers to authoritative authors in this field. 16 citations of Dr. Ismail's publications were found, of which 5 are in publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information or in monographs, and 11 are in peer-reviewed monographs. The topics of the presented publications are in the field of administration and management. More specifically, they cover the theory and practice of the organization and management of public administration in the Republic of Bulgaria with an emphasis on local self-government. The presented works reveal the subject, the methodology, the system and the functioning of the public administration. In view of this, it can be concluded that the content of the presented publications corresponds to professional direction 3.7. "Administration and Management" (Public Administration), according to which the competition for the academic position "docent" is held.

Dr. Hassan Ismail's profile as a scientist includes his work as a university lecturer and adult education lecturer. He has developed three study courses for master's programs included in the e-learning platforms of the Burgas Free University.

Dr. Ismail's scientific activity is also expressed in active participation in research and expert teams implementing projects financed by the Erasmus+ Program, PHAR Program, Operational Program "Regional Development", Operational Program "Human Resources Development", Operational Environment Programme, Good Governance Operational Program and Growing Regions Operational Programme. He has participated in a total of 14 projects, of which 12 are national and 2 are international.

Dr. Hasan Ismail's substantial and rich scientific output, his experience as a university lecturer and supervisor of doctoral students, together with his outstanding activity as a participant in national and international projects with a practical focus, show that he is fully justified to claim the academic position of "associate professor".

2. Evaluation of the scientific and practical results and contributions of the scientific production submitted for participation in the competition

Scientific contributions in the works of Dr. Hasan Ismail are reflected both in the theory of local self-government and in real practice. They are theoretical-methodological and scientific-applied in nature.

In a more concrete plan, the following more significant theoretical-methodological and scientific-applied contributions to the scientific production of Dr. Ismail can be indicated:

Scientific contributions of a theoretical-methodological nature:

- the conceptual substantiation of the relationship between changes in indicators key to local budgets and the degree of decentralization;
- the derivation of the model of connectivity between the central and local authorities from the point of view of hierarchy and functional interaction;
- the identification of problem areas in the microclimate of Bulgarian municipalities and possible solutions to increase the satisfaction of municipal employees.

Contributions of a practical nature:

- the development of options for carrying out a reform towards decentralization of municipalities in Bulgaria;
- the creation of an integrated model of local and regional government in Bulgaria;
- the testing of a methodology for empirical research of the administrative municipal capacity and of the civic attitudes in the local communities;
- the development of a complex toolkit for assessing the microclimate and workplace satisfaction in Bulgarian municipalities.


These scientific contributions of Dr. Hasan Ismail are aimed at enriching the theory and practice in the field of local self-government and especially at its interaction with other authorities and its improvement in the context of new realities. Briefly, these scientific contributions can be characterized with key words such as: **systematization, clarification of concepts, comparative analysis, revealing trends and problems, offering solutions of practical value in the field of local self-government.** These contributions from Dr. Ismail's publications and participation in a large number of projects are oriented towards increasing knowledge and assisting political decision-makers and management participants at the level of individual municipal administrations. The applied methodological approach, the results of the analyzes and the recommendations would be useful in the training of doctoral students and students.

CONCLUSION

Dr. Hassan Azis Ismail participated in the competition for the academic position of "associate professor" with sufficient volume and quality of scientific production. This fact, as well as the scientific contributions of a theoretical and practical-applied nature indicated in the opinion, gives me reason to confidently support the election of Dr. Hasan Ismail for the academic position of "associate professor" in professional direction 3.7. "Administration and Management" at Burgas Free University.

18.10.2022

Member of the scientific jury:



(associate professor dr. N.Kaneva)