

OPINION

by *Valentina Angelova Dramalieva, Doctor of Philosophy, Professor*
Philosophy and Ethics Section, Department of Political Economy, UNWE,
Member of Scientific Jury: Scientific Council Decision, Protocol 27/10.12.2019;
Order of the Director of IPS-BAS: ПД - 09-200/02.03.2020

concerning

a competition for occupation of **academic position "Professor"** in the professional field 2.3. Philosophy (European Studies and Security), promulgated SG No.89 /12.11.2019 for the purposes of Department of Social Theories, Strategies, and Forecasts, IPS-BAS

The only candidate in this competition is **Borislav Gradinarov**. He holds a Master of Philosophy (1985) and a Master of Laws (1999) from Sofia University "St. Kl. Ohridski ". He has received the educational and scientific degree Doctor of Philosophy (1989) from the Institute of Philosophy (IP) – BAS, as well as the scientific degree Doctor of Philosophical Sciences (2019) from ISSK-BAS. He is an Associate Professor (2006) at the IP-BAS, after its transformation - at the ISSK-BAS, and now at its successor - the IPS-BAS.

I received the competition materials (copies of publications and documents) by e-mail, and the monographs - as books. I got acquainted with all the materials in order to prepare my opinion. In terms of volume and structure, it complies with Art. 45. (1) (2) of the *Rules of the IPS-BAS for Acquisition of Scientific Degrees and Occupation of Academic Positions*.

1. General description of the materials presented and comparative analysis

In the *List of Scientific Works for Participation in the Competition* B. Gradinarov has included a total of thirty-five, of which: monographs - two (2016, 2020); studios - four (2007; 2013; 2014; 2015); articles - twenty-nine (2007-2019). However, this does not correspond with the number of the works listed in *The NCID Information for Professor* where the works are a total of thirty-one, as: monographs - two; studios - five; articles - twenty-three; textbook - one. They are different from those that he has used to apply for a Ph.D., DSc., and Associate Professor, as evidenced by his *Scientific Curriculum Vitae* with a list of all publications: monographs - eight (1989-2020); articles and studios - one hundred (1993-2019).

The above is also confirmed by four separate reports on compliance with the minimum requirements of the NCID for the educational and scientific degree Doctor, the scientific degree Doctor of Sciences, the academic positions Associate Professor and Professor. B. Gradinarov fulfills them all. He has indicated: 100 points for "Doctor" (80 required); 355 points for "Doctor of Science" (350 required); 400 points for "Associate Professor" (400 required). The requirements for "Professor" will be reflected in detail as they are important.

The Minimum Requirement Points Indicator Groups for Professor shows that a total of **550 points** from five groups of indicators are needed - A (50), C (100), D (200), E (100), F

(100). Gradinarov performs them like this: Indicator A – **50 points** from a Dissertation for awarding educational and scientific degree Doctor: “Dialekticheskiyat zakon (süshtnost, spetsifika, funktsii)”, Diploma № №18948/05.05.1989; Indicator C – **100 points** from habilitation work – a monograph: Gradinarov, B., 2020. Risk i antiriskovi strategii. S.: BISFRIM, 304 p. (**1x100=100**); Indicator D – **a total of 405 points** from publications: **4**. Published monograph not presented as a major habilitation work: Gradinarov, B., 2016. Mediĭno pravo. V. Tŭrnovo: Faber, 264 p. (**1x100=100**); **7**. Articles and reports published in non-referenced journals with scientific peer-review or published in edited collective volumes (**23x10=230**); **9**. Studios published in non-referenced journals with scientific peer-review or published in edited collective volumes (**5x15=75**); Indicator E - **a total of 150 points** from citation: **13**. Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review (**11x10=110**); **14**. Citations or reviews in non-referenced journals with scientific review (**8x5=40**); Indicator F - **a total of 125 points** from: **15**. Acquired degree Doctor of Science: Diploma №001175/04.09.2019, (**1x40=40**); **17**. Participation in a national scientific /educational project: Kharmonizatsiya na bŭlgarskite natsionalni tsennosti s tsennostite na Evropeĭskiya süyuz: postizheniya i problemi, № 2284/18.12.2008 (**1x15=15**); **13**. Leadership of a national scientific /educational project: Balkanite i migrant-skata kriza v konteksta na transformatsiyata na Evropeĭskiya granichen kontrol, 2016/2017, Contract № 31/20.04.2016, (**1x30=30**); **21**. A published university textbook or textbook used in the school network: Gradinarov, B., 2011. Yuridicheska etika. V. Tŭrnovo: Faber, 296 p. (**1x40=40**).

The report shows that Borislav Gradinarov has a total of **830 points** and exceeds the minimum requirements of the NCID for occupying the academic position Professor.

2. Science, applied science and pedagogical activity - a common feature

It can be said that these three activities are balanced in the candidate's career development, but still the scientific and applied science ones dominate for understandable reasons - his main work has always been at the Institute of BAS.

He has published eight monographs and one-hundred studies, articles, reports (1989-2020) in the following scientific fields: social philosophy, philosophy of politics, law and economics, ethics, political economy, political science, security, general theory of state and law, administrative law, EU law, media and communication law. He is also the compiler and editor of five collections (2008-2019). He is the author of two reviews and three opinions in competitions for the educational and scientific degree Doctor and for the academic position Associate Professor. He was also a member of the scientific juries and chaired two of them (2014, 2019). He has participated with papers in seventeen scientific forums (2012-2019).

He has led one and worked in five scientific projects (2008-2020), one of which is still active. He is also associated with two scientific organizations - the Thracian Research Institute and the Balkan Institute for Strategic Forecasting and Risk Management (BISFRIM).

3. Educational activity of the candidate on stage

It can be said that, in addition to his research at the institute, Assoc. Prof. D.Sc. Borislav Gradinarov is actively involved with teaching. He has prepared and delivered numerous academic lecture courses (1996-2020) of disciplines in the fields of Philosophy, Ethics, Law, Political Economy, Management, and Political Science for Bachelors and Masters at Slavic University, Veliko Turnovo University, University of National and World Economy, Bourgas Free University.

Scientific and teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Gradinarov also shows scientific supervising of two doctoral students (2009; 2015), who are given the rights of defense, but they have not defended their doctorates yet. He was also the scientific adviser of four Masters in Political Economy at the UNWE (2016).

4. Content analysis of the applicant's scientific achievements

B. Gradinarov has enclosed in separate documents detailed summaries and clearly outlined contributions of the two monographs with which he participates in the competition. Each of the copies of other publications - studios and articles - contains summary and keywords that guide the text. The bibliography is well described and gives a good notion of the author's views and the development of his ideas. I express my overall positive opinion, but their detailed review and assessment are not the task of one opinion.

The candidate has submitted an *Author's Reference for the Contribution Moments in the Contest Publications*, where he has described his achievements in good faith and objectively. A total of seventeen contributions are listed, as twelve are related to monographs and the rest - to three articles and two studios. I agree with the author's self-assessment. His research contains theoretical generalizations and solutions to scientific and applied scientific problems, which are original and in line with contemporary achievements.

5. Collective publications - determine the contribution of the candidate

The contribution to the collective publications (collections, monographs) is clear.

6. Reflection of scientific publications in the literature (citation)

In his *Scientific Autobiography (CV)*, B. Gradinarov has pointed a list of fifty-one citations of his publications (2002-2019). There are eight published reviews for the works (2004–2019). In addition to this extensive list of citations, he has attached a *Citation List for the Contest*, as: in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review – eleven; in non-

refereed journals with scientific review – eight. This gives a total of one-hundred-and-fifty points, and exceeds the NCID minimum citation requirements for a professor by fifty points.

The above shows that the mandatory minimum requirements are met, and also that the author's scientific publications are well reflected in the literature. Assoc. Prof., D.Sc. Borislav Gradinarov is a recognizable author not only in the philosophical circles in our country.

7. Critical notes of the reviewer on submitted papers

I accept the self-assessment of the contributions in the works of Borislav Gradinarov. Both his theoretical and applied scientific contributions deserve attention. I have no principal objections to the publications. I think they are prepared independently on his own and do not repeat those with whom he acquired the educational and scientific degree Doctor, the scientific degree Doctor of Science, and the academic position Associate Professor.

8. The reviewer's personal impressions of the applicant and other data

I have excellent impressions of the activities of Borislav Gradinarov. His workability and organization are admirable. I know his publications, as well as a large part of his scientific ideas. He has a keen eye for the problems of society, but also - for finding unconventional ways to solve them. His interdisciplinary shows not only his broad interests and knowledge, but also - his ability to analyze thoroughly. I would like to highlight his contribution to philosophical reflection on law, as well as for the “approximation“of Ethics and Law.

His work is balanced, and also the knowledge attained, as well as the experience gained in scientific analysis and teaching, show that he has been ready to be a professor.

9. Motivated and explicit conclusion

I believe that the publications and the overall activity of B. Gradinarov have scientific merits. They show a deep philosophical, economic, and legal knowledge, and interdisciplinary approach. The candidate has developed skills for research, teaching, editorial, publishing, organizing, and expert activities. At the same time, there are minimum required points for the obligatory sets of indicators, formulated by the NCID, for the academic position Professor.

Since all formal and substantive requirements have been met, I confidently vote to be awarded the academic position Professor in the professional field 2.3. Philosophy (European Studies and Security) to Borislav Gradinarov.

Sofia

18/03/2020

Signature:

(Prof. Valentina Dramalieva, PhD)