

# OPINION

from prof. Georgi Teoharov Tuparov, PhD  
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on the scientific works presented for participation in the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education:

4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics,  
professional field: 4.6 Informatics and computer science  
(Context-based information systems),

for the needs of the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (IMI-BAS)  
published in the State Gazette no. 91 of 02.11.2021 and on the IMI website.

The only applicant for the academic position of "Associate Professor" is Boris Blagovestov Shishkov, Ph.D., IMI-BAS.

The opinion was prepared on the basis of order № 341 / 23.12.2021 of the Director of IMI - BAS and a meeting of the Scientific Jury of 12.01.2022.

## **1. General description of the presented documents**

The presented set of documents - references, publications, etc. are very well formed and structured and meet the requirements of ZRASRB, the Regulations for its application and the Regulations for application of ZRASRB of IMI - BAS.

From the submitted author's reference it is evident that the applicant has submitted for participation in the competition 1 monograph, 20 indexed publications in Scopus (16 of them with SJR) and 27 citations in Scopus. All publications submitted for participation in the competition are in English and have not been used to acquire the PhD degree.

## **2. Scientometric indicators of the applicant according to ZRASRB and the specific rules of IMI-BAS**

The table below shows that the presented scientific papers meet the minimum national requirements (under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3 of ZRASRB) and respectively the specific requirements of IMI-BAS for acquiring the academic position "Associate Professor" in Professional field 4.6 "Informatics and Computer Science".

<b>Groups</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Б</b>	<b>В</b>	<b>Г</b>	<b>Д</b>
Minimal points required (ZRASRB)	50	100		200	50
Achieved point by applicant (ZRASRB)	50	100		552	216
Minimal points required (IMI)	50	100	0	220	70
Achieved point by applicant (IMI)	50	100	0	368	162

### **3. General characteristics of the scientific, scientific-applied and other activities of the applicant related to the competition**

The research of the candidate and the contributions in them (scientific, scientifically applied, applied) are in the following areas:

1. Analysis, modeling, design and optimization of technological/business processes.
2. Software design, specification and structuring.

The applicant has presented in detail his claims for scientific, scientifically applied and applied contributions in the author's reference, especially those from the monograph, which I accept in principle and leave for detailed evaluation to reviewers.

Also, it should be noted that Dr. Shishkov has a serious publishing activity. The general list of publications includes: 3 monographs (one of them is the dissertation), 70 peer-reviewed or refereed papers: reports at scientific forums (at home and abroad), as well as articles in national and international publications.

The applicant actively participates in international research projects - a list of a total of 8 projects is presented. In one of the projects the role of the candidate is mentioned as an "evaluator". Therefore, I accept the remaining 7 as admissible, which is more than enough in this case.

From the presented documents it is evident that the applicant develops active editorial activity and has participated in the editorial board of 53 proceedings of scientific conferences, 10 of which were published in the series Lecture Notes in Business Information Processing by Springer.

### **4. Reflection of the applicant's scientific publications in the literature**

The applicant provided information on 119 citations of his publications. Of these, 27 are presented in the competition, which in number significantly exceed the minimum requirements of the PZRASRB of IMI - BAS. The large total number of citations speaks volumes about the impact of his research in the scientific literature as a whole.

## **5. Assessment of the personal contribution of the applicant**

The applicant for the academic position "Associate Professor" - Dr. Shishkov has extensive research experience. He has the necessary competencies to organize and conduct research. He has participated in numerous editorial boards of conference proceedings. The presented publications for participation in the competition (except for the monographic work) are co-authored, and no separation protocols for the contribution of each of the co-authors are presented. Therefore, I accept that the participation of all co-authors is equal.

## **6. Personal impressions for the applicant**

I do not know Dr. Shishkov personally.

## **7. Critical remarks and recommendations**

I have no critical remarks and recommendations.

## **8. Conclusion for the application:**

After analysing the documents presented in the competition, scientific publications and contributions in them, I confirm that the applicant fully meets the requirements of ZRASRB, its regulations and the Rules of IMI-BAS for application of ZRASRB for the academic position of "Associate Professor" field of higher education 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics, professional field 4.6 Informatics and computer sciences (Context-based information systems). In particular, the applicant satisfies the minimal national requirements for the scientific field and there is not a plagiarism in the presented works for the competition.

I give my positive evaluation for the application.

Based on the above, I recommend the Scientific Jury to propose to the Scientific Council of IMI-BAS to elect Dr. Boris Blagovestov Shishkov for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the professional field 4.6 Informatics and Computer Science (Context-Based Information Systems).

February, 13, 2022 г.

Prof. Georgi Tuparov