

RECENZIA

Bx. № PД0-1284 / 26.10.2022

By Prof. Dr. Stoyan Andreev Stoyanov, Department of "Business Economics and Real Estate" at the University of Economics - Varna

Regarding: evaluation of a candidate in a competition for the academic position "docent" in professional field 3.8. Economics, scientific specialty "Organization of Territories"

Grounds for writing the review: Order No. PД06-155/20.09.2022 of the Vice-Rector for SRAPD of the University of Economics - Varna to appoint the composition of the scientific jury and decision of the Scientific jury at its first meeting on 27.09.2022.

1. Contest details

The competition for the academic position of "docent" is in the professional direction 3.8 Economics, scientific specialty "Territory Planning", for the needs of the "Business Economics and Real Estate" Department. The competition announcement was published in the State Gazette, issue 57 of 22.07.2022.

2. Competition candidate

Ch. Anna Zivkova Gospodinova, assistant professor, PhD, is the only candidate in the announced competition for the academic position of "associate professor" in professional direction 3.8. Economics, scientific specialty "Territory Planning" for the needs of the "Business Economics and Real Estate" department.

It is clear from the documents and materials provided to me that chap. Assistant Professor Ana Gospodinova, Ph.D., was admitted to participate in the announced competition for the academic position "docent" at the "Business Economics and Real Estate" department at the IU - Varna. It meets the requirements specified in Art. 62 of the "Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at IU - Varna" (PRASIUV) for admission to participation in a competition for the academic position of "associate professor", as well as the quantitative requirements specified in Appendix 1 of the same Regulations.

Ch. Anna Gospodinova, PhD, studied at the Third Science and Mathematics High School in Varna and graduated in 2000. She was accepted as a student in 2000 at the University of Economics - Varna and graduated in 2004 in the specialty ""Economics and construction management", as a bachelor's degree, and received a master's degree in 2005 in the same department. He is a doctoral student at the University of Economics - Varna for the

period (2006 – 2010). He works at the Department of "Economics and Construction Management" at IU - Varna successively as a part-time assistant since 2009, assistant since 2010 and chief assistant (2011 - until now). In the meantime, he works as a real estate appraiser for several real estate offices, among which are "Palad" and "Yavlena" - Varna.

Trained in:

- Qualification webinar on the topic "Evaluation of plots and profit of the construction contractor using the residual value method. Applying the Income Approach to Real Estate Valuation". – March 2021;

- Training for Scopus, ScienceDirect I Mendeley databases - April 2018; Training in Coimbra Business ISCAC (Portugal) under the ERASMUS program + m.

- Training on "Improving language competences in Russian at level B1" - September 2013 - February 2014.

- Training on "Methods and tools for developing educational content in accordance with the credit accumulation and transfer system (ECTS)" - September 2013.

It should be noted her membership in a scientific-pedagogical school: Functioning of the investment-construction complex: modernization of housing construction, Функционирование инвестиционно-строительного комплекса: модернизация жилищного строительства, внедрение инновационных технологий при выполнении СМР, инфраструктурная обеспеченность строительства, Saint-Petersburg State University of Economics - Russia.

Ch. Anna Gospodinova, assistant professor, is also the author of the "Economics" part of the OUP of the Municipality of Suvorovo.

The candidate chief assistant Dr. Anna Gospodinova defended her doctoral thesis on "Land use in the urbanized territories of Bulgaria" on 13.04.2010 and obtained the ONS "Doctor" on 14.06.2010 (Diploma 34226/14.06.2010). According to the announced competition, she presented a published monographic work, which does not repeat the one for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "doctor" and fully meets the requirements of Art. 71 (2) of the PRASIUV.

3. Main characteristics of the presented scientific works

Ch. assistant professor Anna Gospodinova participated in the competition as the author of 31 articles. publications, including:

independent monographs (without a dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific degree "doctor") - 1 pc. with a volume of 148 standard typewritten pages and in co-authorship – 3 pcs. with a volume of 65.6 or a total number of monographic pages – 215.3;
studies - 1 pc., with a volume of 24.4 pages;
articles – 10, with a total volume of 90.7 pages;
scientific reports – 13 items, with a total volume of 72.1 pages;
textbooks and study aids - 3 pcs. (all in co-authorship), with a total volume of 129.1 pages.

The total volume of the scientific production of the associate professor candidate is 531.6 standard pages. Scientific publications do not repeat those presented for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "doctor". A good feature of her work is the writing of textbooks in co-authorship, which is undoubtedly a certificate of the candidate's ability to work in a team.

From the provided Reference on the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position "docent" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, it is clear that Dr. Anna Gospodinova meets the requirements. So, for example, the candidate has the required 50 points for indicator group "A" (defended dissertation work). According to group "B" indicators, an independent monograph published in 2021 (100 points) was presented, and according to group "G" indicators, with the required 200 points, Dr. Gospodinova declared 232.4 points.

Dr. Anna Gospodinova's publications are mainly dedicated to the field in which she works or, more specifically, to the problems related to the development of the structure of the urbanized territories in Bulgaria. This fact shows the concentrated scientific interest and scientific demand of the candidate for associate professor. The presented titles of the candidate for associate professor Anna Gospodinova are on current planning and urbanization issues related to or arising from management practice, which distinguish her with a good knowledge of the issues in the reality of Bulgaria. In addition, her research output is also recognized by the rich research tools used, thoroughness and analyticalness, argumentation of theses and conclusions, scientific correctness and possibility of practical applicability. It should be noted also that the issues chosen by the candidate related, as we have already emphasized, to urbanization and territorial organization are among the most interesting for local self-government in Bulgaria. This also explains the presence of Dr. Gospodinova's publications in authoritative publications (Library "Prof. Tsani Kalyandzhiev", Yearbook of

IU - Varna, "Izvestia" magazine, "Stroitelstvo" magazine, as well as in foreign publications, etc.) .

All publications of the candidate Dr. Anna Gospodinova are closely related to the scientific specialty for which the current competition is announced:

in publ. 7.1, 8.1, important urbanization and structural issues for the growth of inhabited spaces in separate territories of Bulgaria are investigated on the basis of comparison with other European countries. The accumulated experience enables the author to develop attractive proposals leading to the modern development of the urbanized territories in our country;

in publ. 10.3 the connections between planning policy and construction are shown. Some European documents related to the policy, goals and principles of building and managing the sustainable urban environment are cited and analyzed. As a result, the concept "Integrated plan for urban regeneration and development" was derived. It emphasizes the importance of the connections between different processes in the sustainable development of settlements;

in publ. 14.3 various connections between the objects of the social infrastructure and the general development of the settlements are examined. The importance of infrastructure objects for the proper development and functioning of cities and villages in Bulgaria is determined. Many proposals have been made to optimize the processes of urban infrastructure management, and some funding opportunities have been indicated;

publ. 20.9 concerns the development of suburban urbanized areas, especially in large cities in Bulgaria. The question is raised about the importance of these territories for the improvement of the main urban functions, especially the recreation areas. An analysis was carried out on the basis of which solutions are proposed for overcoming regulatory and organizational obstacles in order to improve the investment attractiveness of these urban areas.

The main place in the scientific production of the candidate is occupied by the monographic work "Territorial expansion of settlements in Bulgaria - modern dimensions and management policies". The ongoing processes of growth and construction of the territory of some settlements in Bulgaria in recent years, mainly at the expense of the development of agricultural lands, lead to a number of negative consequences - economic, social, ecological and territorial-planning. The lack of a policy to regulate and control these processes makes the issue of how to monitor, analyze, control and manage the territorial growth of settlements particularly relevant.

Chapter one is devoted to the theoretical issues of the territorial expansion of the settlements. Based on the review of numerous literary sources, mostly foreign, the concept of "population growth" is further developed and enriched. A classification of the factors influencing growth was made. In the last paragraph of chapter one, international documents related to sustainable development, regulation and limitation of population growth are also discussed.

In the second chapter, based on an adapted European methodology, a detailed analysis of the growth of settlements in Bulgaria at the national and regional (district) level is made. As a result of the conducted empirical research covering the period 2000-2018, conclusions and generalizations were formulated.

In the third chapter, good European practices for limiting the growth of settlements are analyzed. Based on this, a monitoring system has been proposed

territorial expansion and tools and mechanisms for limiting

the unfavorable processes of territorial expansion of settlements in Bulgaria.

As a result of the conclusions drawn in the monographic work, it is concluded that

the territorial expansion of settlements is a prerequisite for the creation of

additional spatial opportunities for the population to live in some settlements (mainly large cities and settlements) while simultaneously abandoning others (small and medium-sized towns and villages). This is the result not only of the unsustainable and unbalanced development of the national territory as a whole, but also of the uncontrollable exploitation of non-urbanized areas (mostly agricultural land that is not used for its intended purpose).

Next, I would like to draw attention to the monographic work "Development of construction in Bulgaria in the context of the new program period 2014 - 2020. The work is collective and I will emphasize ch. First "Structural Policy and Construction", developed by Dr. Anna Gospodinova.

In paragraph one, the essence of the sustainable structure of the territory is clarified.

Some European documents related to the policy, goals and principles of building and managing a sustainable urban environment were reviewed. At the end of the paragraph, the main principles on which the sustainable construction and management of the urban environment should be based are presented. Paragraph two is dedicated to territorial planning as a basis for building a sustainable urban environment. The set of normative documents in the field of territorial planning at all administrative levels (national, regional and local) was examined, with the emphasis on clarifying the importance and significance

of the development plans for the implementation of the investment process. The role and place of institutions and citizens in the processes of spatial planning from the point of view of achieving a balanced and sustainable urban environment are clarified. In paragraph three, the emphasis is on the integrated approach in building and managing a sustainable urban environment. An overview of the current regulations related to the integrated plans for urban regeneration and development has been made. As a result of the above reasoning, the conclusion is reached that the place of these plans in the system of documents of territorial-organizational planning and socio-economic development is not sufficiently well clarified. With this in mind, the concept of "Integrated Plan for Urban Reconstruction and Development" has been clarified in the context of the sustainable construction of the urban environment. The connection and dependence of integrated urban plans is also emphasized

recovery and development with territorial (spatial) and socio-economic (regional) planning.

I am also familiar with the other publications presented by the candidate, but I will not summarize them in this review, for obvious reasons.

In conclusion, the publications of Ch. assistant professor Anna Gospodinova prove her scientific activity, her skills as a researcher, her high competence and her special knowledge in the field of the development of urbanized territories. Conclusion: The research work of chap. assistant professor Anna Gospodinova is at a very high level and in quantitative and qualitative terms corresponds to the requirements of PRASIUV for occupying the academic position of "associate professor".

4. Evaluation of teaching and learning work

The submitted documents related to the educational and teaching work contain the necessary evidence from which a positive assessment can be made for the participation in the announced competition for "associate professor". The reference was issued by the necessary officials and it is also clear from it that the general auditorium workload of ch. assistant professor Dr. Anna Gospodinova for the last two academic years (2020/2021 and 2021/2022) is evenly distributed. In the bachelor's degree, it is respectively 285 and 246 study hours, mixed lectures and exercises, and in the master's degree - 95 and 105 study hours per year.

Ch. assistant professor Anna Gospodinova leads lectures/seminars on the academic disciplines:

- "Sustainable development of cities";
- "Local government and self-government";

- "Territory device",
- "Cadastre and Property Register";
- "Improvement";
- "Organization of the territory and urbanization process";
- "Urban studies";

From the listed academic disciplines, led by the assistant principal. Dr. Anna Gospodinova in both degrees, bachelor's and master's, it is clear that they are exclusively within the scope of the announced competition for "associate professor". Along with this, it is necessary to point out that a candidate's educational and teaching work includes participation in the writing of 3 textbooks and teaching aids with a total number of pages of 129.1. The candidate has carried out scientific supervision of dozens of graduates who have successfully defended their diplomas in OCS "Bachelor" and OCS "Master".

Conclusion: The educational and teaching work of Ch. Anna Gospodinova, assistant professor, meets the requirements of PRAS at IU Varna for holding the academic position of "associate professor".

5. Scientific and scientific-applied achievements and contributions of the candidate

In the scientific publications of ch. assistant professor Anna Gospodinova, the following scientific and scientific-applied contributions can be highlighted:

First, contributions of a scientific-theoretical nature related to the territorial expansion of settlements in Bulgaria. More specifically, the following contributions can be outlined in this direction:

The essence has been clarified and the terminology has been improved in the context of the territorial expansion of settlements.

The causes and factors affecting the territorial expansion of settlements are outlined.

The possibilities of applying the European experience to limit the growth of settlements in Bulgaria are presented.

A system for monitoring territorial expansion, suitable for all management levels, has been proposed and a corresponding evaluation methodology has been adapted as an element of the monitoring system.

(Posts 7.1, 13.2, 15.4)

Second, with a theoretical and scientific-applied nature related to spatial planning and territory management, sustainable and integrated urban development and regional planning

Based on a critical analysis performed to classify the functional zoning of the urbanized territories, a model is proposed, which is of the so-called mixed type, combining "rigid" and "flexible" functional zoning.

A model for land use in the large cities of Bulgaria is proposed. Some approaches, tools and mechanisms for managing the territory of large cities in Bulgaria are outlined.

The state and dynamics of land use in the urbanized territories of Bulgaria, in comparison with other countries of the European Union, are studied.

Based on a theoretical refinement of the concept of "Integrated Plan for Urban Reconstruction and Development", the role of integrated plans for the development of cities in Bulgaria has been assessed and their relationship with spatial planning and socio-economic (regional) planning has been emphasized.

(Publications 11.4, 8.1, 23.2, 24.3, 26.5, 33.12 - indexed in SCOPUS, 10.3, 25.4, 12.1, 20.9)

Research results have been achieved in terms of enriching the theory and supplementing the content of textbooks.

(Posts 35.1, 36.2, 37.3)

Third, with a theoretical and practical-applied nature or contributions regarding the development of the territories of municipalities in Bulgaria.

Some forms of administrative territorial reorganization and alternatives for the development of the territory of small municipalities have been proposed, such as consolidation, partnership on the principle of clustering and creation of clusters within the municipalities themselves.

One of the models reflecting the relationship between the construction of professional sports stadiums and the economic development of the territories has been modified.

The socio-economic benefits of the processes of construction, reconstruction and management of the football stadiums in Bulgaria were revealed and the roles and responsibilities of the public authorities were assessed. A normative regulation of a certain structure (organization) responsible for the construction or reconstruction of stadiums, for their management and management, is proposed.

(Posts 14.3, 30.9, 31.10)

6. Applicant's Citations

From the attached Report on the implementation of the minimum national requirements for the occupation of the academic position "docent" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, it is clear that a significant part of the scientific publications of ch. assistant professor Anna Gospodinova are quoted by other authors (Bulgarian and foreign), and according to group of indicators "D" with the collected 150 points far exceeds the required 50 points. This is enough reason to draw the conclusion that Dr Gospodinova is well-known in scientific circles, not only at the University of Economics - Varna, and her popularity is especially in the field of territorial development of settlements.

7. Notes, questions and recommendations

I have no remarks or criticisms of the candidate's scientific output. I am familiar with most of the posts, having participated in discussions on many of them and taken the opportunity to do so.

I can present the following collegial recommendations:

- continually expand his scientific interests;
- to publish his scientific works in renowned foreign publications;
- to continuously engage in research activity, using his accumulated experience and knowledge to initiate and lead research and other projects.


8. Summary conclusion

Taking into account the indisputable achievements in the teaching and research activities of Ch. assistant professor Anna Gospodinova, her professional qualities and academic reputation, I allow myself to say that she meets the requirements specified in the "Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at IU-Varna" for occupying the academic position of "associate professor" . Therefore, with complete conviction, I declare my support and recommend to the respected academic jury to propose to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Economics to approve Ch. Anna Zivkova Gospodinova, assistant professor, as an "associate professor" in the scientific specialty "Territory Management".

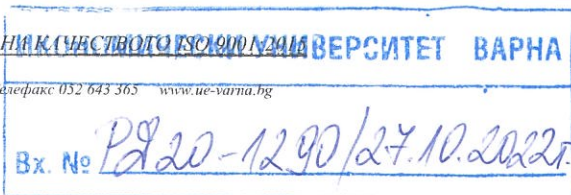
Varna

22.10.2022

Заличена информация съгласно
ЗЗЛД и регламент (ЕС) 2016/ 679

Reviewer: 

(Prof. Dr. S. Stoyanov)



REVIEW

**for participation in the competition for the academic position of associate professor at
the University of Economics -Varna**

Candidate: Chief Assist. Prof. Anna Zhivkova Gospodinova, PhD

Reviewer: assoc. prof. Georgi Shinkov Zabunov, PhD, Department of Real Estate and Facility Management, University of National and World Economy (UNWE).Sofia, professional field 3.8. Economics, scientific specialty "Economics and management (Real estate)"

1. General information

Review prepared by: assoc. prof. Georgi Shinkov Zabunov, PhD, Department of Real Estate and Facility Management", University of National and World Economy (UNWE).

Reason for review preparation: participation in the scientific jury for the selection of an associate professor under Order № RD-06-155/ 20.09.2022 pursuant to Art. 4 in connection with Art. 25 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, Art. 66 of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at the University of Economics – Varna, Order № RD-14-141/ 13.10.2021 and a decision of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Economics (Minutes № 31 от 19.09.2022).

2. Competition details

The competition was announced for the needs of the Department of Business, Investment and Real Estate (former Department of Economics and Management of the Construction Industry) at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Economics – Varna and is for the position of an associate professor in professional field 3.8. Economics, scientific specialty "Economics and Management (Spatial Planning)".

The competition was announced in the State Gazette, 57/2022, p. 68.

3. Competition participants

Chief assistant professor Anna Zhivkova Gospodinova, PhD, is the only candidate. She is a faculty member at the department for whose needs the competition was announced.

4. Information about the candidate's background

The candidate's professional background is entirely within the area of real estate. She studied in the Science and Mathematics High School "Acad. Metodi Popov" in Varna and finished it in 2000. For the period 2000 – 2004 she studied economics of the construction industry at the University of Economics – Varna, and graduated from the university in 2004. The candidate did her master's degree in the specialty "Economics of the real estate sector" in



2005. Her training for both her specialties was realized by the Department of Economy and Management of the Construction Industry. In 2006 Anna Gospodinova became a PhD student in the same department. She defended her thesis in 2010 in became a PhD in the scientific specialty 05.02.18 "Economics and management (by industries)". The set of the candidate's documents contains a notarised copy of Anna Gospodinova's Diploma for the Educational and Scientific Degree "Philosophy Doctor" No. 34226 dated 14.06.2010. The topic of the dissertation is "Land Use in the Urbanised Territories of Bulgaria" which directly corresponds with the subject matter of the competition. In addition, the education for the candidate's bachelor's, master's and doctor's degrees is closely related to the department that initiated the competition for the academic position of associate professor.

Apart from the education in the field of real estate, the candidate paid attention to her professional training. After completing a course at Tsesi Invest Ltd - Sofia in 2005, she acquired legal capacity as an agricultural land appraiser and after a course at the Privatisation Agency - Sofia and passing an exam in 2006, she became a licensed real estate appraiser. Since 2007, she has been actively working as a real estate appraiser in the companies of independent appraisers Palad in Varna and Yavlena Impact – Varna regional structure.

Anna Gospodinova made a change in her career path in 2009 when she became a lecturer in the Department of Business, Investment and Real Estate (former Department of Economy and Management of the Construction Industry). She started as a part-time assistant professor. In 2010, Ana Gospodinova became an assistant professor and in 2011 – a chief assistant professor. Since then she has focused her constant and determined efforts on becoming a highly qualified lecturer. This is facilitated by her joint work with her former lecturers and the accumulated practical experience.

5. Quantitative and content characteristics of the presented scientific papers after the candidate's last procedure

As can be seen from the works submitted for review, the candidate meets the requirements under Art. 62, item 3 in connection with Art. 71 of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at the University of Economics - Varna. The list of publications includes four monographs, studies, ten articles, thirteen reports and two textbooks.

The chronological review of the presented publications shows the author's creative growth and development. The issues of spatial planning have been in the focus of her research



throughout her career. In the beginning, the candidate expanded her knowledge in the area of her professional interest and her work is more theoretical. She outlined the scope and content of the investigated field, the key problems and main areas in the search for solutions. She considered some specific, but interesting phenomena of practical importance. For instance, the 2012 report dealing with the timeshare business in the real estate industry (Opportunities for the development of the timeshare business in the real estate industry in Bulgaria) and the 2016 collective monograph devoted to the timeshare products in the seaside regions of Bulgaria (Application of timeshare in the hotel industry of the seaside regions of Bulgaria). Together with her colleagues and based on her knowledge in the area of spatial planning, the author examines the opportunities for use of real estate timeshare in the tourist regions of the country.

At a later stage, Anna Gospodinova started looking for an adequate general theoretical framework for her research. Thus, she came up with the idea of using the methodology of institutional economics. Two articles are a clear example in this regard. The first one is the 2019 article "Administrative barriers and their impact on the efficiency of construction complex organisations". The second one is entitled "Impact of institutional risks on the growth potential of construction companies" and was written in 2021. This publication examines the concept of growth potential of organisations in the construction industry. Special attention is paid to transaction costs and the variety of institutional traps. The article is written at a very good theoretical level. The joint work with experts from the leading Russian institutional school has contributed to the candidate's development.

The candidate's creative maturity and self-confidence can also be seen in other areas of her work. She started looking for the application of the accumulated knowledge, skills and competences to solve specific practical problems. An example of this is the 2022 article "Alternative forms of administrative-territorial restructuring and alternatives for the development of small municipalities in Bulgaria". Having done a comprehensive analysis of the state and development trends of some small municipalities as well as of municipalities in a disadvantaged position in terms of location, development level and structure of local economy, the author suggested alternative forms of administrative-territorial restructuring and alternatives for territorial development. Such forms are the consolidation of some municipalities, the partnership between individual municipalities on the principle of clustering, as well as the creation of clusters within the municipalities themselves.



Undoubtedly and to the greatest extent, the candidate's achievements can be seen in the habilitation monograph "Territorial growth of the settlements in Bulgaria: modern dimensions and management policies", which was published in 2021. First of all, it is focused on an important modern problem. This is the development of the territory of some settlements in Bulgaria mainly at the expense of the development of agricultural lands. The lack of a policy to regulate and control these processes puts on the agenda the need to analyse, control and manage the territorial expansion of settlements. The author has adhered to a classic form of presentation - three chapters and a reasoned conclusion. The monograph includes a summary of the theoretical issues of the territorial expansion of settlements. This summary was made on the basis of a study of numerous, mostly foreign, literary sources. An important emphasis is placed on international documents related to sustainable development, regulation and the limitation of population growth. The most significant contribution of the study is a detailed analysis of the growth of settlements in Bulgaria at national and regional (district) level. This analysis is made with the help of a special EU methodology which was previously adapted to the needs of Bulgarian practice. The empirical research conducted is for an eighteen-year period from 2000 to 2018. These introductory steps allow the author to analyse a number of good European practices to limit urban sprawl. As a systematised conclusion, Dr Gospodinova proposes a policy for regulation of the process of urban sprawl in Bulgaria as well as a system for urban sprawl monitoring.

The monograph is written at a high theoretical level and the author's presentation style of is good and readable. Overall, the habilitation work provides convincing evidence of the candidate's theoretical achievements and her ability to solve complex practical tasks in an ingenious way.

6. Quantitative and qualitative evaluation of the candidate's teaching activity

The attached documents testify that the candidate in the competition ch. assist. prof. Anna Zivkova Gospodinova, PhD, meets all the requirements under Art. 62, item 2 in connection with Art. 71 of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at the University of Economics - Varna. For the last two academic years (2020/2021 and 2021/2022) Dr. Gospodinova has had 531 hours with students doing bachelor's degree and 200 hours with students doing master's degree. She has taught the following disciplines: Territory Planning, Urban Studies, Urbanisation Economics, Sustainable Development of Cities, Cadastre and Land Registry, Territory Planning and Investment Process, Public



Development, Local Government and Self-Government, etc. In addition, the candidate works actively with both undergraduates and doctoral students. She is the academic supervisor of more than 60 students completing their bachelor's and master's degrees. She is the reviewer of more than 80 diploma theses (in the bachelor's and master's degrees). Furthermore, she is tutor for 3rd year students from various majors taught by the department. Dr Gospodinova is in charge of the practical training of the third year students majoring in construction economics. She has been a member of a committee in the Review of Student Scientific Activity since 2011 and is an academic mentor for the Student Practices project. The candidate has joint publications with students and PhD students taught by the department. What is more, chief assist. prof. Anna Gospodinova, PhD has teaching activity abroad and participated in the ERASMUS+ programme by giving lectures as a visiting professor in the Institute of Higher Studies Fafe (Portugal) in 2019. Apart from this, she organises visits to business organisations and public administration institutions as well as meetings with guest speakers from the field of practice. She was a member of a state examination commission, university and department coordinator for the international programmes Erasmus and CEEPUS. She has presided the organising committee of the traditional Student scientific conference of the University of Economics – Varna. She led a group of third-year students during an internship at St. Petersburg State University of Engineering and Economics (now St. Petersburg State University of Economics).

To sum up, Dr Gospodinova's teaching activity proves that she is an experienced lecturer with an impressive potential and the department can consider her an asset.

7. Identification of the candidate's research contribution

The publications of chief assistant professor Anna Gospodinova, PhD, presented for review include research results of scientific and applied nature. The works reveal a sustainable orientation of the author to issues related to territory organisation. The candidate shows the ability to analyse and synthesise theoretical concepts and, based on this, to interpret the obtained results and formulate justified conclusions and inferences. The most significant contributions of chief assistant professor Dr Anna Gospodinova's research work can be systematized as follows:

First, a complex scientific, theoretical and applied study of the urban sprawl of the settlements in Bulgaria. (Publications 7.1, 13.2, 15.4)



Second, theoretical, scientific and applied research on spatial planning and territory management, sustainable and integrated urban development and regional planning. (Publications 11.4, 8.1, 23.2, 24.3, 26.5, 33.12, 10.3, 25.4, 12.1, 20.9, 35.1, 36.2, 37.3)

Third, theoretical inferences as well as applied and practical recommendations to management entities for the improvement of the development of the territories of the small municipalities in Bulgaria. (Publications 21.10, 34.13, 16.5)

Fourth, study of the influence of Bulgarian stadiums on the socio-economic development of the territories. (Publications 14.3, 30.9, 31.10)

Fifth, theoretical conclusions and practical and applied recommendations to management entities in the construction business, real estate business and social infrastructure. (Publications 17.6, 19.8, 32.11, 27.6, 9.2, 22.1, 18.7, 28.7, 29.8)

A number of the candidate's publications have been cited nationally and internationally. Evidence has been provided of 20 citations of which one in Ukraine, four in the Russian Federation and fifteen in Bulgaria.

8. Critical remarks, questions and recommendations

The submitted publications and other documents unequivocally prove the candidate's professional competence. This gives me reason to have recommendations, rather than critical remarks about it.

First of all, the accumulated knowledge, skills and professional competences in the field of territorial planning are a good basis for entering other fields as well, e.g. real estate market analysis. By maintaining the research focus on territory organisation, the author can achieve good results in applied interdisciplinary research.

Secondly, Dr Gospodinova should use the achieved creative and professional maturity for publication in refereed journals indexed in global databases.

9. Conclusion

I evaluate the research and teaching work of Ch. Assistant Professor Anna Gospodinova, PhD positively. According to the submitted documents and the results achieved, the candidate meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its Implementation and the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff at the University of Economics - Varna for the position of associate professor. I believe the presented works resulted from the candidate's scientific and research activity. I recommend her assuming the position of associate professor



ИКОНОМИЧЕСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ – ВАРНА

СЕРТИФИЦИРАНА СИСТЕМА ЗА УПРАВЛЕНИЕ НА КАЧЕСТВОТО ISO 9001:2015

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in the professional field 3.8. Economics, scientific specialty "Economics and Management (Spatial Planning)" for the needs of the Department of Business, Investment and Real Estate at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Economics - Varna.

Sofia

26.10.2022

Заличена информация съгласно
Signature: ЗЗЛД и регламент (ЕС) 2016/ 679

/Assoc. Prof. Dr Georgi Zabunov/