

OPINION

by Assoc. Prof. Irina Alexandrovna Radeva, PhD
Institute of Information and Communication Technologies - BAS
in competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor",
in professional field 4. 6. "Informatics and Computer Science",
specialty "Informatics", announced in State Gazette no. 97/15.11.2024
for the needs of "Modeling and Optimization" Department of the Institute of
Information and Communication Technologies - BAS

By Order No. 9/10.01.2025 of the Director of the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies - BAS, corr.-member Sv. Margenov, I have been appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury of the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor", in the professional field 4. 6. "Informatics and Computer Science", specialty "Informatics", announced in State Gazette No. 97/15.11.2024 for the needs of the "Modelling and Optimization" department of the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies - BAS. Only one candidate has submitted documents for the competition - Chief Assist. Kristina Ivanova Dineva, PhD.

As a member of the Scientific Jury I have received: a CV according to the European template; a copy of the diploma for the educational and scientific degree "PhD"; a service note for the experience in the specialty; a list of scientific publications for participation in the competition for the scientific position "Associate Professor"; a list of citations; abstracts of the scientific publications for participation in the competition - in Bulgarian and English; copies of the scientific publications for participation in the competition; a reference for fulfillment of the minimum requirements of the IICT-BAS; a reference for fulfillment of the minimum requirements for the NACID; reference to original scientific and applied contributions; declaration that there is no plagiarism in the scientific works proven by the legal procedure; copy of the announcement in the State Gazette; reference to participation in projects; certificates.

According to ADASRB, Regulation of application of the Regulatory of the specific conditions for academic scientific degree, and holding academic positions at IICT-BAS, candidates for associate professor must:

Art. 24 (1) The applicants to occupy the academic position of Associate Professor must meet the following conditions:

1. to have been awarded the educational and scientific degree of Doctor...;
2. for minimum two years:
 - a) to have occupies the academic position of Assistant, Chief Assistant.
3. to have presented a published monograph or equivalent publications in specialized scientific issued or ..., which do not reproduce those presented for awarding the educational and scientific degree of Doctor and for awarding of the scientific degree of Doctor of Science.
4. to meet the minimum national refinements under Art.2b, Para. 2 and 3, respectively the requirements under Art. 2b, Para. 5.
5. to have no plagiarism proven as per the legally established order in the scientific works.

(2) The academic position of Associate Professor shall be occupied on the basis of a competition and election.

(3) A competition for occupying the academic position of Associate Professor shall be opened, if it is possible the relevant teaching and research load to be provided, according to the relevant rules of procedure of the higher school or scientific organization.

Art. 26 (1) The candidates shall submit a reference on the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, Paras. 2 and 3, the requirements under Art. 2b, Para. 5, respectively, and a reference of the original scientific contributions to which shall be attached the relevant evidence laid down in this Act, in the Regulations for its implementation, and the Regulations of the higher schools and of the scientific organizations.

Chief Assist. Kristina Ivanova Dineva, PhD **meets the conditions of Art. 24 (1), 1. of ADASRB**, as she has submitted Diploma № 001323/05.01.2021 for the award of educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in "Informatics" from the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies - BAS.

Chief Assist. Kristina Dineva, PhD **meets the conditions of Article 24 (1). 2.**, as she has submitted a service note signed by the Director of the IICT_BAS corr-member Sv. Margenov and Mrs. Stefka Moncheva - Human Resources, confirming that she has been working at the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies - BAS since 13.01.2020 and has a work experience of 05 years (including 03 years and 03 months as a Chief Assistant).

In the competition documents there is a "**List of publications of Kristina Ivanova Dineva for participation in the competition for the academic position of Associate Professor**". The brief analysis of the 17 publications **submitted to the competition** shows:

- **5 publications** are publications in journals with IF indexed in WoS (№№ B-1, B-2, B-3, Г-0, Г-1);
- **3 articles** are in JCR, Q1 (№№ B-2, B-3, Г-0) and Q2 (№ B-1) **journals**;
- **9 publications** are international conference papers indexed in Scopus with SJR (№№ Г-2, Г-3, Г-4, Г-5, Г-6, Г-7, Г-8, Г-9, Г-10);
- **3 publications** are international conference papers **indexed in Scopus without SJR** (№№ Г0-1, Г0-2, Г0-3);

All publications are co-authored and in English.

Pursuant to Art. 3 of the Regulations on the Specific Conditions for Acquisition of Scientific Degrees and for Holding Academic Positions at the IICT-BAS, the minimum required points for groups of indicators in professional field 4.6. Informatics and Computer Science for the academic position of Associate Professor are:

GROUP INDICATORS	CONTENTS	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS IICT - BAS	ACCORDING TO THE REFERENCE
A	Indicator 1	50	50
Б	Indicator 2	-	-
B	Indicator 3	100	140
Г	Sum of indicators 4 to 10	260	286
Д	Sum of indicators 11 to 13	70	288
Е	Sum of indicators from 14 to the end	20	70

Chief assist. Kristina Ivanova Dineva, PhD **meets the requirements of Art. 24(1).3** as in Group B, Indicator 3, item 4 she has submitted 3 publications in journals with IF (WoS) and JCR quartile Q1 and Q2.

The presented publications do not coincide with those involved in the procedures for the acquisition of degree PhD and the academic position "Chief Assistant".

According to the submitted reports on the fulfilment of the minimum national requirements and the those of IICT-BAS by Chief Assist. Kristina Dineva, she meets the requirements for indicators A , B , Г , Д and E for professional field 4. 6. "Informatics and Computer Science" which **satisfies the requirements of Art 24 (1), 4. of the ADASRB.**

I accept the submitted by the candidate Declaration that no plagiarism has been proven in the scientific works submitted for this competition in accordance with the statutory procedure, thus the **requirements of Art 24 (1), 5. of the ADASRB are fulfilled.**

In the "**Citation List**", which is a reference from SONIX and covers the period 2017 - 2025, there are 258 citations of 22 publications. In the reference for fulfilling the minimum requirements of IICT - BAS, 48 citations in SCOPUS-indexed journals of two publications from the competition list are presented.

In accordance with Art. 10 (1) of the Regulations on the Specific Conditions for the Acquisition of Scientific Degrees and for the Occupation of Academic Positions at the IICT-BAS, "**Abstracts of Scientific Publications**" in Bulgarian and English and "**Reference to Original Scientific and Applied Contributions**" are presented.

"**Reference for original scientific and applied contributions**" presents the scientific and applied contributions in three thematic areas: Cloud Technologies and Infrastructures (Nos. B-1, B-2, Г-2), Information Systems Architectures and Internet of Things (IoT) (Nos. B-3, Г-1, Г-5, Г0-1, Г0-2, Г0-3), and Machine Self-Learning and Artificial Intelligence (Nos. Г0, Г-3, Г-4, Г-6, Г-7, Г-8, Г-9, Г-10). Most of the research is on applications in smart animal husbandry, including monitoring animal health status, analysing animal behaviour using ML algorithms, and using multisensory IoT platforms.

Some of the results presented, especially in the area of cloud computing and IoT architectures, have wider applications and can also be used in areas such as industrial automation, environmental monitoring and smart cities.

I accept that the 5 scientific and 6 applied scientific contributions set out on pages 10-11 of above reference are well argued and that they have scientific and applied value.

It is evident from the submitted reports on the fulfillment of the minimum requirements of the IICT that Chief Assist. Kristina Dineva has participated in 3 national, 1 international scientific projects, and has been the project leader of one.

The competition documents are enclosed:

- 4 certificates of publication in MDPI journals: 2 papers in Animals (2021, 2023, impact factor 2.7); 1 paper in Applied Sciences (2024, impact factor 2.5); 1 paper in Sensors (2022, impact factor 3.9), which was awarded "Editor's Choice".
- The **AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner** credential, issued on 23 October 2021 and valid until 23 October 2024, validates foundational knowledge of cloud computing and AWS infrastructure, including cloud concepts, security,

technology, and pricing. Certification is earned by successfully passing the AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner (CLF-C01) exam;

- **Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP) certificate**, awarded on 15 July 2017 after successfully passing the 480 - Programming in HTML5 with JavaScript and CSS3 exam.

Chief asst. Kristina Dineva is awarded a **Diploma** of the IICT-BAS for excellent scientific results in 2019 - category "PhD students" and a **Diploma** of the General Assembly of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences "Professor Marin Drinov" for young scientists up to 35 years of age in the competition for 2021.

CONCLUSION

All the requirements, conditions and criteria according to the ADASRB, the Regulations for its implementation, the Regulations for the conditions and procedure for the acquisition of scientific degrees and for the occupation of academic positions in the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the Regulations for the specific conditions for the acquisition of scientific degrees and for the occupation of academic positions in the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies - BAS have been fulfilled.

I give a **positive conclusion for the election of the Chief Asst. Kristina Ivanova Dineva, PhD** for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the professional field 4.6. "Informatics and Computer Science", specialty "Informatics".

I propose the Scientific Jury to unanimously vote on a proposal to the Scientific Council of the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies - BAS, to elect Chief Asst. Kristina Ivanova Dineva, PhD for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the professional field 4. 6. "Informatics and Computer Science", specialty "Informatics".

Sofia,
03.02.2025 г.

Member of the Scienti

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