## **OPINION**



for Associate Professor Dr. Leonid Mihaylov Kirilov
on competition for academic position "Professor"
on professional field 4.6 "Informatics and Computer Science"
on scientific specialty "Informatics"

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By order No. 311 of 13.12.2024 of the Director of the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Corresponding Member Svetozar Margenov, in accordance with Art. 29a of the Law and a decision of the Scientific Council of the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Minutes No. 12 of 27.11.2024), I am appointed as a member of the scientific jury under the procedure for the academic position of "professor" in professional field 4.6 "Informatics and computer sciences", scientific specialty "Informatics", announced for the needs of the section "Information processes and decision-making systems" State Gazette No. 87/15.10.2024. As a member of the scientific jury, I have received all the documents attached to the application to the Director of IICT-BAS of the sole candidate in the competition, Associate Professor Leonid Mikhailov Kirilov.

According to the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the regulations for its implementation and the specific requirements introduced in the regulations of IICT-BAS, candidates must meet the following requirements:

- 1. Have acquired an educational and scientific degree of "doctor";
- 2. Have held the academic position of "associate professor" at the same or another higher education institution or scientific organization;
- 3. Have presented a published monographic work or equivalent publications in specialized scientific publications, which do not repeat those presented for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degrees "Doctor", "Doctor of Sciences" and "Associate Professor";
- 4. Have presented other original research papers, publications, inventions and other scientific and applied scientific developments that are evaluated collectively;
- 5. Meet minimum national requirements;

6. They must not have plagiarism proven in accordance with the statutory procedure in their scientific works.

Associate Professor Leonid Mikhailov Kirilov obtained the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in 1993, and the title "Associate Professor" in 1999.

Assoc. Prof. Leonid Kirilov has a total of 138 publications, 43 of which are visible in Scopus, has a total of 310 citations, 100 of which are in 31 publications visible in Scopus. His Hirsch index is 6.

For indicators from group B, Assoc. Prof. Leonid Kirilov has presented a monograph published by the Academic Publishing House of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, which brings his total number of points for this indicator to 100 out of the required 100.

For indicators from group D of the requirements, a total of 18 publications are presented: 1 with an impact factor in Q3, 2 with an impact factor in Q4, 10 with an impact rank, 4 referenced in the global referencing and indexing system without an impact factor or impact rank and one chapter of a book published by the international scientific publishing house IGI Global. The total number of points is 341 with a required 260.

Associate Professor Leonid Kirilov has presented a total of 41 citations of his publications by other authors. In journals with an impact factor or impact rank of WoS/SCOPUS there are 28 citations, and in other databases such as Zentralblatt and ACM Digital Library there are 13 citations. The total number of points is 207 with a required 140 by indicator D.

He has been the supervisor of 1 successfully defended doctoral student and has participated in 8 projects funded by the Bulgarian National Science Foundation, 2 under a national program, 1 with the Innovation Fund, 1 funded by an operational program, 4 projects with companies, 6 funded under EU programs, 1 bilateral project funded by the Bulgarian National Science Foundation. He has been the supervisor of 3 projects with national funding and 2 projects with foreign funding. He has attracted funds worth a total of 331,500 BGN. The total number of points is 576 with a required 150 under indicator E.

Assoc. Prof. Leonid Kirilov fulfills, and in some criteria significantly exceeds, the national requirements, as well as the specific requirements of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the Institute of ICT for the academic position of "Professor".

The contributions from the developments presented in the competition are in the field of modeling, optimization and decision-making in various application areas.

The candidate's main scientific contributions can be summarized as follows:

- 1. Models of hydrological processes and management of river systems have been developed;
- 2. Algorithms have been developed for modeling and optimization of mono- and bi-metallic nanostructures;
- 3. Models have been developed for evaluating and making decisions on real processes in various fields;
- 4. Algorithms and approaches for multi-criteria decision making have been developed.

I know the candidate personally. We have participated in several joint projects. He is currently participating in two scientific projects, which I am the leader of. I have excellent impressions of his scientific work.

The materials presented are complete and detailed. They contain the necessary information required by law. The candidate's contributions are given in considerable detail.

## CONCLUSION

According to the submitted documents, the candidate Leonid Mikhailov Kirilov fulfills all the requirements of the Law on Academic Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria, the regulations to it and the regulations on the specific requirements for acquiring scientific degrees and occupying academic positions of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the Institute of ICT-BAS. I give a positive conclusion for the selection of Leonid Kirilov in the competition for the academic position of "professor" in professional field 4.6 "Informatics and Computer Sciences", scientific specialty "Informatics".

I propose to the Scientific Jury to unanimously vote on a proposal to the Scientific Council of the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences to elect Associate Professor Dr. Leonid Mihaylov Kirilov for the academic position of "professor" in professional field 4.6 "Informatics and Computer Sciences", scientific specialty "Informatics".

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