

REVIEW

by **Dr. Plamen Marinov Lakov, Professor at the University of Agribusiness and Rural Development – Plovdiv (UARD), Department of Regional Development, Agribusiness and Tourism**

Subject: Competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional field 3.7. Administration and management, scientific specialty "Cultural Anthropology and Social Management" and the materials presented for participation in it.

1. General information about the competition and the status of the documentation

The competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional field 3.7. Administration and management, scientific specialty "Cultural Anthropology and Social Management" was announced in the State Gazette, issue 43 / 21.05.2021, p. 206 and on the website of UARD - Plovdiv, for the needs of the University of Agribusiness and Rural Development, Department of Economics and Management.

The procedure and the documentation for the announced competition meet all the requirements of the normative base, namely: Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria - promulgated in SG, issue 38 of 21.05.2010, last add. SG, issue 21 of 12.03.2021, Rules for Implementation of the Law on development of academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria – approved with Decree of the Council of Ministers № 202 of 10.09.2010, promulgated in SG, issue 75 of 24.09.2010, last amended and ext. SG, issue 15 of 19.02. 2019. and the Regulations for application of the Law on the development of the academic staff in UARD, approved on 15.02.2021.

In the announced competition as the only candidate participating is Assist. Prof. Dr. Krasimir Romanov Asenov from the Department of language training, teacher training and innovation at UARD - Plovdiv.

2. Grounds for preparing the review in the competition

The reason for preparing the review on the announced competition is the Order № RD-124 / 28.05.2019 issued by the Rector of the University of Agribusiness and Rural Development - Plovdiv for inclusion of Prof. Dr. Plamen Marinov Lakov in the scientific jury (Art. 28, Regulations for application of the Law on the development of the academic staff in UARD) and the requirements of Art. 26, para. 3 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. The author meets the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and is entered in the Register of the academic staff of the Republic of Bulgaria maintained by the National Center for Information and Documentation (NACID), which fulfills the provision of art. 4, para. 4 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

The author, in preparing the review, was guided by the requirements set out in Art. 24, para. 1 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria in connection with the Art. 53, para. 1 of Rules for Implementation of the Law on development of academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and Art. 29 in the Regulations for application of the

Law on the development of the academic staff in UARD: The candidate should have acquired the educational and scientific degree "Doctor", work experience, basic research results reflected in scientific works, scientific metric indicators, the presence or absence of plagiarism, papers related to the direction of competition, etc. The scientific contribution of the candidate for appointment of Associate Professor in the professional field have been taken into account. The indicators were estimated in relation to the educational activity, the research activity and others, regulated in Art. 27, para. 4 in connection with Art. 2b, para. 2, item 2 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and found a specific expression in Art. 29 of the Regulations for application of the Law on the development of the academic staff in UARD.

The information used to assess the candidate was the original reference for the implementation of the minimum national requirements, candidate's reference for scientific works and original scientific contributions in accordance with Art. 26, para. 1 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria in connection with Art. 54, para. 1 of the Rules for Implementation of the Law on development of academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and information according to Art. 26, para. 1 of 2-6 and 9-10 of the Regulations for application of the Law on the development of the academic staff in UARD.

3. Brief biographical data

The candidate Assist. Prof. Krasimir Romanov Asenov was born on March 5, 1966 in Asenovgrad. He graduated from high school in 1984. After that he was assigned to the school for paratroopers. He was in the army from 1984 to 1986. After that he graduated and worked as a technologist at a research institute. At the same time, he was actively working in the non-governmental sector - the Swiss Agency for Local Government Development, Open Society and others.

He successively studied and graduated with a bachelor's degree in higher education at the Technical University of Gabrovo in the period 2002-2005 with the qualification "Public Administration". During the period 2006-2007 he continued his education, again at the Technical University of Gabrovo, where he received a master's degree with a qualification: "Crisis and Conflict Management". In the period 2015-2017 he was a doctoral student at the University of Plovdiv (Faculty of Philosophy and History) where he successfully defended his doctoral dissertation for which in 2017 he obtained the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the field of *Social, economic and legal sciences* - sociology, anthropology, cultural sciences and ethnology.

Since 2006 he has been working in the Municipality of Plovdiv - Chief Expert, Head of Department, and since 2011 he has been a Deputy mayor of the North region.

The candidate, Dr. Krasimir Assenov, is at the same time actively engaged in scientific and teaching activities in the country and abroad. From 2019 he has been appointed as an assistant professor at UARD where he works as a lecturer with which he fulfills the requirement of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria for a minimum length of work experience for the academic position of associate professor.

Fluent in several languages - Turkish, Russian, English.

4. General description of the presented materials

The candidate Assistant Professor Dr. Krasimir Romanov Assenov participates in the competition with:

- Monographs - **2** pieces;
- Studies - **1** piece;
- Articles - **10** pieces;
- Scientific reports – **1** piece;
- Textbooks - **X** pieces;
- Teaching aids - **X** pieces;
- Other publications - **X** pieces.

Publications can be classified as follows:

By type:

- Studies - **1** piece;
- Articles - **10** pieces;
- Reports - **1** piece;
- Popular publications - **X** pieces.

By relevance:

- Articles in referenced and indexed in world databases editions - **2** pieces [Asenov, K. 2019. Roma: A nation without a homeland, common language, or written language - a case study of Plovdiv, Bulgaria (Book Chapter). Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2019. SD Brunn, R. Kehrein (eds.), Handbook of the Changing World Language Map, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-73400-2_218-1; Ilieva, N., Kouwatli, O., Asenov, K., Kazakov, B. 2019. Location and interrelations of the Roma quarter of Harman mahala with the urban structure of the city of Plovdiv, Bulgaria. European Journal of Geography Volume 10, Number 2: 118-133, June 2019, ISSN 1792-1341]

- Plenary reports - **2** pieces [Asenov, K., Arabska, E. Globalization and social justice in a sustainable world. III. International conference on awareness Proceedings, 5-7 December 2019, Canakkale, Turkey, ISBN 978-625-7047-00-5, 11-22; Asenov, K. 2019. Globalization, urban hypertrophy and economic development. Proceedings of the International scientific and practical conference “Bulgaria of regions” Vol. 2, Fiscal policy, globalization and economic growth: sustainable development challenges and perspectives, 39-46, ISBN 978-619-203-281-4 (online)].

- Awarded publications - **X** pieces [].

By place of publication:

- Articles in referenced international journals - **2** pieces [Asenov, K. 2019. Roma: A nation without a homeland, common language, or written language - a case study of Plovdiv, Bulgaria (Book Chapter). Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2019. SD Brunn, R. Kehrein (eds.), Handbook of the Changing World Language Map, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-73400-2_218-1; Ilieva, N., Kouwatli, O., Asenov, K., Kazakov, B. 2019. Location and interrelations of the Roma quarter of Harman mahala with the urban structure of the city of Plovdiv, Bulgaria. European Journal of Geography Volume 10, Number 2: 118-133, June 2019, ISSN 1792-1341]

- Papers in proceedings of international scientific conferences abroad - **1** piece [Asenov, K., Arabska, E. Globalization and social justice in a sustainable world. III. International conference on awareness Proceedings, 5-7 December 2019, Canakkale, Turkey, ISBN 978-625-7047-00-5, 11-22].

- Articles in national scientific journals - **4** pieces [Asenov, K. 2020. Roma colonization. Beyond the "ecumenism" - in the footsteps of the protoromes. Problems of Geography 1-2, 31-49, ISSN 0204-7209, ISSN 2367-6671 (Online) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.35101/prg-2020.1-2.3>; Asenov, K. 2019. The global ghetto - urban hypertrophy, realities and fictions. Problems of

Geography 3-4, 27-42, ISSN 0204-7209, ISSN 2367-6671 (Online); Asenov, K. 2021. The Neanthrope and the New Global World. New Knowledge 10-2, ISSN 2367-4598 (Online), ISSN 1314-5703 (Print); Asenov, K. 2021. Memory and oblivion. New Knowledge 10-2, ISSN 2367-4598 (Online), ISSN 1314-5703 (Print)].

- Papers in the proceedings of international scientific conferences in Bulgaria - **1** piece [Asenov, K. 2019. Globalization, urban hypertrophy and economic development. Proceedings of the International scientific and practical conference “Bulgaria of regions” Vol. 2, Fiscal policy, globalization and economic growth: sustainable development challenges and perspectives, 39-46, ISBN 978-619-203-281-4 (on-line)].

- Papers in papers of national scientific conferences, sessions and seminars - **X** pieces [].

- Reports in scientific works of universities - **2** pieces [Assenov, K. 2021. Social homeostasis - a theory of ethnocultural identity. Yearbook of UARD, Volume IX, 209-248, ISSN 2535-0609 (on-line), Asenov, K. 2018. Suitcase trade - stereotypes marginalization. Yearbook of association "Ongal", volume 16, year. XII - Fields of ethnology: between knowledge and cognition, ISSN 1311-493X, 465-485].

In the language in which they are written:

- In English - **5** pieces [Asenov, K. 2019. Roma: A nation without a homeland, common language, or written language - a case study of Plovdiv, Bulgaria (Book Chapter). Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2019. SD Brunn, R. Kehrein (eds .), Handbook of the Changing World Language Map, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-73400-2_218-1; Ilieva, N., Kouwatli, O., Asenov, K., Kazakov, B. 2019. Location and interrelations of the Roma quarter of Harman mahala with the urban structure of the city of Plovdiv, Bulgaria . European Journal of Geography Volume 10, Number 2: 118-133, June 2019, ISSN 1792-1341; Ravnachka, A., Kazakov, B., Ilieva, N., Asenov, K. 2020. School Segregation of the Roma Ethnic Group: A Case Study of Harman Mahala Roma Quarter, Plovdiv. Smart geography, 201-216. Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2020. ISSN 2522-8420 ISSN 2522-8439 (electronic). Key Challenges in Geography, ISBN 978-3-030-28190-8 ISBN 978-3-030-28191-5 (eBook), <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-28191-5>; Ilieva, N., Asenov, K., Kazakov, B., Lubenov, T. 2020. Dynamics of the Internal Structure and Habitation Conditions of the Ghettoized Urban Structure of Harman Mahala Quarter-Plovdiv, Bulgaria (Through Combined Application of Remote Sensing and Field Research Methods). Smart Geography, 175-191. Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2020. ISSN 2522-8420 ISSN 2522-8439 (electronic). Key Challenges in Geography, ISBN 978-3-030-28190-8 ISBN 978-3-030-28191-5 (eBook), <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-28191-5>; Asenov, K., Arabska, E. Globalization and social justice in a sustainable world . III. International conference on awareness Proceedings, 5-7 December 2019, Canakkale, Turkey, ISBN 978-625-7047-00-5, 11-22];

- In Bulgarian - **9** pieces [all others].

By number of co-authors:

- Independent - **10** pieces [2 monographs, 1 study and 7 articles];

- With one co-author - **1** piece [a paper] ;

- With two co-authors - **X** issue [];

- With three or more co-authors - **3** pieces [articles] .

5. Reflection of the candidate's scientific publications in the literature (known citations)

- Total - **12** citations;

- From Bulgarian authors - **11** citations;
- Foreign authors - **1** citation.

6. General characteristics of the candidate's activity

6.1. Educational and pedagogical activity (work with students and doctoral students)

The candidate Assistant Professor Dr. Asenov actively works with students teaching the disciplines: Intercultural Communication, Media Language and Communications, Media Management, Organizational Change Management. He participates in webinars of UARD (for example: <http://uard.bg/bg/news/view/654>), and gives public lectures in our country (for example: <http://uard.bg/bg/news/view/567>) and abroad.

6.2. Scientific and scientifically applied activity

Dr. Asenov's research interests are as follows: peripheral and ghettoized urban structures, globalization and global processes, urban hypertrophy, cultural anthropology, migration and refugees, social conflicts and ecology.

He has participated in 10 projects - as a manager of four and a coordinator of one such as:

1. Innovations of Regional Sustainability: European University Alliance Project No: 101004073
2. Adult training course for small farmers on ecological and urban agriculture ECOAGRI 2018-1-BG01-KA204-047888
3. Supporting access to training and qualification for people with disabilities through the development of a course on environmental gardening education and it is based on learning outcomes of the European Credit Transfer System in Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) № 2017-1-BG01-KA202-036212
4. 2017 - Project: “Spatial segregation and its impact on the social integration of the Roma in Arman Mahala, Plovdiv”) - at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy and Geography.
5. 2015-2017 Project manager: “Social integration of vulnerable people. Home help“- Phase II.
6. 2013 -2015 Project manager: “Social integration of vulnerable people. Home help“ - Phase I and others.

6.3. Implementation activity

No information provided.

6.4. Contributions (scientific, scientifically applied, applied)

I accept the provided reference for the scientific contributions contained in the publications of Assistant Professor Dr. Krasimir Asenov. I find that it reflects the results of published works. The analysis and evaluation of the presented scientific publications provide an opportunity for a summary of the following significant contributions, enriching the existing knowledge and contributions of scientific and applied nature:

1. Outlining a new research field, formulating the question of how the spatially and culturally ghettoized urban structure is formed and developed.
2. Creating a qualitatively new thesis about *social homeostasis*, as a form of preserving the ethnocultural identity of collective bodies (groups, communities, peoples).

3. Using a new not yet well-established scientific method (aero-space or so-called remote method) for the study of ghettoized urban structures by which qualitatively new information was collected.

4. A full spatial and ethnodemographic mapping of a "Roma" neighborhood was made.

5. Available, endangered and removed from the cultural memory of the cultural patterns of residents of Turkish speaking Roma neighborhoods in Southern Bulgaria were described and analyzed.

6. The notions of *ghettoized urban structure*, *omnitropism*, *urban hypertrophy* are introduced into scientific circulation

7. Assessment of the candidate's personal contribution

I know the work of Assist. Prof. Dr. Asenov at the University of Agribusiness and Rural Development. Our joint work gives me the reason to say that he has respectable professional, business and moral qualities, as well as the necessary objectivity, critical thinking, initiative, correctness and teamwork, combined with a strong sense of responsibility. The rich professional experience of the candidate complements his profile as a scientist and a lecturer.

In the competition for acquiring an academic position of associate professor he participates with a scientific production of sufficient volume and quality. Out of 14 publications, 10 are independent. There is no doubt about the author's presence both in terms of methodological parts in the publications and in terms of scientific contributions. The topic on which Dr. Asenov works is relevant and important in scientific and scientific-applied terms.

The publications are written in sound scientific language using the necessary professional terminology, which shows that the candidate has a significant amount of interdisciplinary and specialized knowledge.

The scientific creativity of the candidate corresponds to a significant extent to the announced competition and professional field.

The publications and citations cover the minimum required points by groups of indicators for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional field 3.7. Administration and management, scientific specialty "Cultural Anthropology and Social Management".

I accept the prepared reference as follows:

Group of indicators	Contents	Associate Professor	The result
A	Indicator 1	50	50
B	Indicator 2	-	-
IN	Indicator 3	100	100
G	Sum of indicators from 4 to 10	200	222.5
D	Sum of indicators from 11 to 13	50	100
E	Sum of indicators from 14 to the end	-	-

The candidate, with the submitted materials for the competition, meets the requirements for the academic position of "Associate Professor" according to Art. 24 of Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria: he obtained an educational and scientific degree "doctor", he provided a habilitation thesis: Asenov, K. 2021. Beyond the ecumenism. The global ghetto. Ed. Studio 18. ISBN 978-619-7249-80-4, 210 pages, that meets the minimum required points for the academic position of "Associate Professor" and has no legally proven plagiarism in scientific papers.

8. Critical notes

I allow myself to make some critical remarks and recommendations to the candidate, Assistant Professor Dr. Asenov. I think that the reference to the scientific contributions is very voluminous. Some of the contributions can be combined and summarized, avoiding some of the explanations given. In the future work, to be more actively involved in curriculum development. To prepare textbooks and teaching materials for the lecture courses he leads. In the future, significant works to be published abroad, which will allow for more citations.

The mentioned critical remarks and recommendations do not diminish the main merits in the scientific work of Assistant Professor Dr. Krasimir Asenov.

9. Conclusion:

Given the above and the analysis of the presented by the candidate scientific output, citations, contributions, scientific metric indicators and in accordance with Art. 26, para. 3 of Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as the fact that the candidate meets the relevant minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3 of Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, I suggest to the scientific jury Assistant Professor Dr. Krasimir Romanov Asenov to **be elected** on the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 3. Social, Economic and Legal Sciences, professional field 3.7. Administration and management, scientific specialty "Cultural Anthropology and Social Management" under the announced competition.

31.08.2021

Member of the jury:
(Prof. Dr. Plamen Lakov)