

БЪЛГАРСКА АКАДЕМИЯ на НАУКИТЕ	
ИНСТИТУТ на ГОРАТА	
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OPINION

on the materials submitted for participation in the competition for "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine; Professional field 6.5. Forestry; Scientific specialty "Silviculture, incl. Dendrology", published in the State Gazette, No. 103/12.12.2023.

Applicant: Dr Dimitar Petrov Dimitrov

Opinion by: Prof. Dr. Tzvetan Mladenov Zlatanov, Professor in code 4.3. Biological Sciences, Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Associate Professor in Professional field 6.5. Forestry.1.

1. Brief biographic data of the candidate:

Dr. Dimitrov holds a Master's degree in Forestry from the University of Forestry, Sofia as well as an educational and scientific doctorate degree in "Ecology and protection of ecosystems". The candidate has over 20 years of professional experience in the fields of Dendrochronology and Forest ecology.

2. Correspondence of the applicant's documents and materials with the requirements according to the Regulations for the acquisition of scientific degrees and for the occupation of academic positions at the Forest Research Institute – BAS.

The documents and materials submitted by the candidate fully comply with the Law for Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its implementation, and the requirements according to the Regulations for the acquisition of scientific degrees and for the occupation of academic positions at the Forest Research Institute – BAS.

3. Main fields in the candidate's research profile and evaluation of the most important scientific and applied contributions.

Dr. Dimitar Dimitrov is a profiled and prominent dendrochronologist in Bulgaria, with an affinity for forest ecology research. I accept the submitted contributions and consider them to be essential.

4. Characteristics of the publication activities

For the purpose of the competition, the candidate has submitted 26 scientific publications, all of which having a trace in the Web space. Four of the publications are included in the prestigious SCOPUS database. After 2019, the journal Silva Balcanica is not referenced in Scopus, which has not been taken into account when preparing the documentation, therefore some of the publications published after 2019 cannot be recognized as having an impact rank on Scopus. The author has one publication with an impact factor (Q2) of which he is not the first author. All publications are of good quality and correspond to the subject of the competition.

5. Reflection of the candidate's scientific activity in the literature (citation rate)

The list of citations of the scientific works of Dr. Dimitar Dimitrov, presented for participation in the competition, includes 11 citations. The Scopus check found that one of the applicant's publications "TREE-RING FEATURES: INDICATORS OF EXTREME EVENT IMPACTS" has been cited 72 times.

6. Participation in scientific and applied projects

The candidate has extensive experience in working on scientific and applied projects. Through the implemented projects, Dr. Dimitrov contributes to the sustainable management of Bulgarian forests.

7. Evaluation of the personal contribution of the candidate

The candidate is first author in 11 of the scientific works presented in the competition. I have reasons to believe that in most of the publications in which the applicant is not the first author, he has made a substantial contribution.

8. Critical comments and recommendations

My recommendation is that Dr Dimitrov should publish in prestigious international journals in his scientific field. In Bulgaria, he is already a proven expert in his field, however, he has the potential to be a recognizable scientist outside the country as well and he has had many opportunities for establishing scientific collaborations.

9. Personal impressions

I know the candidate as a conscientious researcher.

10. Conclusion

On the basis of the submitted documents, I propose Dr Dimitar Petrov Dimitrov to occupy the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine; Professional field 6.5. Forestry; Scientific specialty "Silviculture, incl. Dendrology".

Opinion by: |

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(Prof. Dr. Tzvetan Zlatanov)

Opinion submitted on 9.4.2024 r.