

OPINION

on the materials submitted for participation in a competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in professional field 6. "Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine", professional field 6.5. "Forestry", scientific specialty "Forestry, incl. Dendrology", announced by the Institute of Forestry - BAS in SG no. 12 / 12.02.2021

Candidate for participation in the competition: **Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Plamen Stankov Glogov**

Prepared the opinion: **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Svetla Bratanova-Doncheva** in Professional Field 4.3. Biological sciences, scientific specialty "Ecology and protection of ecosystems", member of the Scientific Jury, determined by Order № ПД151/15.04.2021

1. Brief biographical data

The candidate in this competition, Chief Assistant Dr. Plamen Glogov was born on May 25, 1975 in the city of Sofia.

He graduated with a master's degree from LTU-Sofia, Department of Botany in 1997 with a degree in environmental engineering. Later in 2004 he obtained a Master's degree "Public Administration" at the Institute for Postgraduate Qualification at UNWE. In 2013 he obtained a Master's degree in Theater Directing at NBU.

He passed through various positions in various institutions and in the period 2006-20015 worked in the MoEW and in 2014-2015 was Head of Department "European and International Projects" in the Directorate "Coordination of European Union Affairs and International Cooperation" in the MoEW.

In 2015-2018 at IG-BAS he developed a doctoral dissertation on "Study of the higher flora and analysis of the dendroflora of Lozenska Mountain" and acquired the required degree "Doctor" in professional field 6. "Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine", professional field 6.5. "Forestry", scientific specialty "Forestry, incl. Dendrology". In 2018 he was appointed as an assistant, and later after a competition, as a chief assistant at IG-BAS. In recent years he has been actively working for the Forestry and Forest Resources Management Section and has published data and results collected over the years.

Works successfully on 5 projects of the section. During nearly 21 years of experience, of which nearly 18 years related to environmental tasks, Glogov shows a number of skills for project management, as well as for independent scientific research, focus, sense of analysis of current issues, enviable efficiency and effectiveness.

2. Conformity of the submitted documents and materials of the candidate with the minimum requirements, according to the Regulations for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions in the Institute of Forestry - BAS.

The documents submitted by the candidate Chief Assistant Plamen Glogov meet the requirements for conducting a competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor", according to the ACT for the development of academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for obtaining scientific degrees and holding academic positions at the Institute of Forestry - BAS.

2. General description of the submitted materials.

According to the submitted materials, the total number of scientific publications of the candidate is 55. 4 of them are related to his dissertation and 4 - to the competition for chief assistant in 2018. The remaining 47 publications are grouped according to the guidelines for minimum national requirements for Professional field 6 "Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine", professional field 6.5. "Forestry", scientific specialty "Forestry, incl. Dendrology" and according to the Regulations for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at the Institute of Forestry - BAS, as follows:

The indicator from group A is fulfilled - 50 points.

Group B indicator - not required for this position.

To the Indicator from group C Glogov presented 10 publications in magazines with impact factor (4 publications) or SJR (6 publications), respectively with quartiles Q2 (2 publications) Q4 (2 publications). The total numerical value is 117.9 with a required minimum of 100 points.

The Indicator from group D presents 14 articles and reports in refereed and indexed editions: 13 in editions from the NACID list and 1 publication with quartile Q4. The total numerical value is 166.0. There are also 23 articles and reports in non-peer-reviewed journals and a collection of peer-reviewed reports from scientific forums. The total numerical value is 90.5 points. Thus, for this Indicator the collected points are 256.5 with a required minimum of 200 points.

To the Indicator from group E the candidate has declared 245 points with a required minimum of 100 points.

The Indicator from group E presents the projects on which Dr. Glogov works: participation in 2 national and 2 international projects and management of 1 international project and 5 projects under the NSF. The total numerical value of this indicator is 100 points with a minimum of 50 points.

The analysis shows that the scientific assets of Dr. Plamen Glogov exceed the required minimum for number and quality of scientific products and citations, according to Art. 13 of the Regulations of IG-BAS, including the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3 of Academic staff Development Act

3. Main directions in the research work of the candidate and the most important scientific and scientific-applied contributions.

The main directions in the work of Dr. Glogov are the floristic and phytocenological studies, as well as the analysis of the pressures on the flora and vegetation and the effects on them. He purposefully continues in this niche, continuing what he has learned and gained experience in developing his dissertation - "Study of higher flora and analysis of the dendroflora of Lozenska Mountain" - 2018.

In more detail, Glogov develops his scientific interests in the fields of Botanical and Dendrological Research (including morphological and anatomical, chorological, floristic, dendrofloristic research and research on invasive alien species); Phytocenological Research and Forestry Research.

In recent years, the candidate's desire to expand the scope of his interests, enriching his work with an analysis of current issues and the effect on flora and vegetation, has made an impression.

The main scientific contributions in the 10 publications included in group "B" are presented in a separate extended habilitation report. Some of the publications in it present the development of a complex methodological approach for dendrofloristic research (Glogov et al., 2017) and its application in the study of dendroflora on the territory of Lozenska mountain (Glogov et al. 2018a, b). Another part of the publications related to dendrofloral studies analyzes the ecological features, distribution and competition between two species considered until recently from a forestry point of view - the eastern hornbeam (*Carpinus orientalis* Mill.) And the hornbeam (*Fraxinus ornus* L.)., 2019).

In the current competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" are presented another 37 scientific papers (23 in Bulgarian and 14 in English), related to morphological, floristic, ecological and biological and others. studies of certain groups of plants and plant communities of characteristic habitats (mountain, riparian, island, etc.), as well as with silvicultural approaches for the management of important tree species.

The report also presents two examples of floristic and phytocenotic study of the consequences of systemic anthropogenic impact on plant communities in the Lozenska Mountain (Glogov et al. 2019a) and Vitosha (Dimitrov et al., 2004). as well as publications specifically related to the diversity and distribution of IHR on the territory of Lozenska Mountain (Glogov et al., 2019b, Glogov et al., 2020).

The most significant scientific and scientific-applied contributions contained in the other publications included in group "D" are in the following directions:

- o Changes in the anatomical and morphological parameters of *Ligustrum vulgare* L. were studied. during the first 40 days after permanent mechanical damage. (D.8.7.).
- o A case of albinism has been identified for the first time in *Vaccinium vitis-idaea* L. (D.8.18.)
- o New localities of a number of species have been established (D.7.2., D.7.3.) on the territory of Lozenska mountain (floristic region West Sredna Gora); on the territory of the Plan (Vitosha floristic region) (D.7.5.); on the territory of the Danube islands Aydemir and

Vetren (floral region Danube plain) (D.7.13.), most of which are invasive species and species with conservation status.

- o For the first time a comprehensive study was carried out on the higher flora of Lozenska mountain (D.7.1.). It has been established that 25.8% of the flora of Bulgaria is found on the territory of the mountain. An analysis of the relict (D.7.6.), Healing (D.8.2.), And decorative flora (D.8.11.) Of Lozenska mountain was performed, comparing the species richness in the different parts of the mountain.
- o For the first time a comprehensive study of the dendroflora of Lozenska mountain was carried out on: ecological features (D.7.14), resistance to changes in the environment of the main edificators (D.8.9, D.8.10).
- o The healing (D.8.3) and honey (D.8.6) dendroflora of Lozenska mountain have been studied and the honey potential of the main tree species has been calculated. It has been established that on the territory of Lozenska mountain there is about 1/3 of the healing and honey dendroflora of Bulgaria.
- o Studies have been conducted on the biological characteristics and control measures related to the spread and impact of the invasive alien glandular species *Impatiens glandulifera* Royale. (D.8.20.). With regard to the means for chemical control of the populations of the glandular weak-legged, a study of the effect and the possibilities for treatment of the species with selective and total herbicide has been carried out. (D.8.17.).
- o The biological and ecological features of the potentially invasive alien species *Lupinus polyphyllus* on the territory of Lozenska mountain have been studied (D.8.16).
- o A study of ruderal communities in coastal areas that are under permanent anthropogenic pressure has been carried out. (D.7.12).
- o Phytocoenotic studies have been conducted in black pine crops with undergrowth of mistletoe in part of the mountainous areas around Sofia - Vitosha, Plana, Lozenska mountain and Stara Planina (D.8.15).
- o The data from previous studies related to the plant communities in the gorge on the Iskar River between Plana and Lozenska Mountain have been updated. A classification according to the floristic approach of the indigenous communities in the studied area (D.8.12) and a map of the potential vegetation (D.8.13) are presented.
- o The European experience in the medium-sized economy has been studied and the possibilities for implementation of the medium-sized economy in Bulgaria have been analyzed (D.7.4).
- o An up-to-date methodology for monitoring the natural forests of the Danube Islands and the impact of invasive alien plant species on them has been developed (D.7.10). The methodology combines the experience of different scientific disciplines (phytocoenology, soil science, forestry taxation and Geographic Information Systems) and involves unification of cross-border monitoring of forests along the Danube and its islands and supports decision-making processes related to the management of Danube protected areas. islands.

Most of the publications and respectively the contributions presented by the candidate are related to his work on the Dissertation and analysis of collected materials that have not been published. Another part is related to his work on the projects he is currently working on.

4. Reflection of the candidate's scientific publications in the literature.

From the reference for established citations of the candidate 245 items have been declared. The citations in refereed journals and peer-reviewed collections are 18 and 1 in non-refereed edition. The most cited posts are 2 - with large teams.

As the candidate's publications have been published in the last 3-4 years, the citations are still not many. I recommend the candidate to focus his efforts in the coming years to publish in magazines with higher IF, as well as in open access magazines in order to be more visible and to be cited more.

5. Participation in research projects.

At present, Dr. Plamen Glogov participates in 5 projects, of which 2 national:

- o National Scientific Program "Environmental Protection and Reduction of the Risk of Adverse Events and Natural Disasters". DO1-230 / 06.12.18 RP1.1.4. Impact of climate change on forest ecosystems and adaptation measures. MES (2018-2023);
- o Project "Control and validation of the results of the performed analyzes and studies of the species and natural habitats in Bulgaria, subject to reporting according to the Habitats and Birds Directive: Stage 2".

and 2 international:

- o Project "For everyone who saved a tree" (FOREST) under Project № CB007.2.32.170 Priority axis: 3. Environment, Specific objective: 3.2. Nature conservation, co-financed by the European Union through the Interreg-IPA Bulgaria-Serbia Cross-Border Cooperation Program 2014-2020
- o Project "Invasive alien plant species in protected areas and areas along the Danube islands of Bulgaria and Romania" under the EBRD Bulgaria-Romania

as well as 1 project under the NSF, of which he is the project leader:

- o NSF Project No. KP-06-M31 / 3 of 12.12.2019 "Study of the distribution and impact of the invasive alien species *Impatiens glandulifera* Royale on the natural habitats in the gorge of the Iskar River between Lozenska Mountain and Plana".

7. Teaching and learning activities (supervisor / consultant for doctoral students, student training, etc.)

At the moment Dr. Glogov has no teaching activity. He has led exercises in 5 disciplines - Botany, Phytocenology, Medical Botany, Ornamental plants of the Bulgarian flora - in LTU, in the period 1998-2006.

8. Assessment of the personal contribution of the candidate.

Out of a total of 47 publications included in this competition, grouped according to the instructions for minimum national requirements for Professional field 6. "Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine", professional field 6.5. "Forestry", scientific specialty "Forestry, incl. Dendrology "and according to the Regulations for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at the Institute of Forestry - BAS, Dr. Glogov is the first author in 27 of them or 58% of the presented production. In the reports presented at various forums - Glogov is the first author in half of them. The assessments made speak for themselves about the personal participation and personal contribution of the candidate.

9. Critical remarks and recommendations

Although Dr. Glogov's research has so far been local, I believe that it has the potential, if viewed on a wider regional scale (for example, through comparisons of similar research and results), to be published in more reputable scientific journals. Of course, I welcome quality articles to be offered in Bulgarian magazines in order to make our editions more and more reputable. But publishing in reputable editions should not be overlooked - on the one hand, the editing and reviewing process provides important experience in presenting results and comparing them to the world, and on the other - the opportunity for more visibility among colleagues around the world the ideas and work of each researcher in general. So my recommendation is - strive to publish in highly qualified magazines, and this would bring more citations.

10. Personal impressions.

I know Plamen Glogov from his work at the MoEW. I was impressed by an intelligent, responsible, well-informed and professionally working young man. He has diverse interests, but with a strong interest in nature, scientific work, field research and analysis of scientific data. His determination, ability to work, desire for self-improvement and responsibility are strong prerequisites for development and for his transformation into a highly qualified scientist.

11. Conclusion.

In connection with the above, I propose Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Plamen Stankov Glogov to be elected "Associate Professor" in professional field 6. "Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine", professional field 6.5. "Forestry", scientific specialty "Forestry, incl. Dendrology ".

Date: 25.05.2021

Member of NJ:

(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Svetla Bratanova-Doncheva)