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REVIEW

on the materials submitted for participation in a competition for an academic position "Associate professor" in professional area "6.5 Forestry", scientific specialty "Silviculture incl. Dendrology" declared by the Forest Research Institute (FRI) – BAS in State Gazette, № 12/12.02.2021

Applicant for the position: Chief assistant Plamen Stankov Glogov, PhD – Forest Research Institute

Reviewer: Prof. Alexander Haralanov Alexandrov, D.Sc. – Department "Agricultural sciences and forestry" of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS).

1. Brief biographic information about the applicant.

Plamen Glogov was born on 25 of May 1975 in Sofia. He graduated from the Forestry University on specialty "Ecology and environmental protection" (Diploma: series AB № 00518/xii 1997, Reg. № 10112) and "Master on theater staging" in New Bulgarian University (Diploma: № 218560/ series 2013, Reg. № 021705/2013).

From 6 October 1998 till 12 June 2006 Eng. Plamen Glogov was subsequently assistant, senior assistant and chief assistant on "Botany" and "Phytoecology" at the Forestry University. From 20 June 2006 he was engaged in the Ministry of Environment and Waters as Chief expert (20.06.2006 – 25.05.2008), Section Head (26.05.2008 – 22.07.2008) and Director (22.07.2008 – 01.12.2009) at the Department "PHARE Program" as well as Section Head (01.12.2009 – 16.10.2015) at the Department "European and International Projects". After one-year break he was a producer at the theater "Via Verde" – Sofia (12.10. 2016 – 24.10.2017). From 6 November 2017 till 6 August 2018 he was assistant, after that chief assistant at the Forest Research Institute – BAS (Certificate № 001328/20.08.2018).

A thesis on: "Study on higher flora and analysis of dendro-flora of Lozen Mountain" he defended in 2018 and received an educational and scientific degree "Doctor (PhD)" (BAS, Diploma №000985/16.03.2018).

His language skill is on English and Russian (category C 1).

2. Compliance of the submitted documents and materials of the applicant with those required under the regulations for scientific degree and academic position in the Forest Research Institute – BAS.

Documents and materials of Eng. Plamen Glogov applied for an academic position "Associate professor" comply with the requirements set in the Classifier from the Decree 125 of the Council of Ministers (State Gazette, №64/2002) in professional area "6.5 Forestry" and with the requirement set in the Regulations for academic positions in Forest Research Institute -BAS (Scientific Council, Protocol 3/11.07.2011, Protocol 4/11.10.2011, Protocol 12/16.11.2017, Protocol 10/26.11.2018).

The minimum required point score by groups of indicators (A, B, G, D, E) for “Associate Professor” in professional area “6.5 Forestry” is 500 (50+100+200+100+50) and the candidate accumulates 769.4 points respectively: (50+117.9+256.5+245+100) or he exceeds the necessary point score with 54%. Adding to them 32 points for additional indicators for participation in scientific forums with reports/ posters, the total number of points enlarges to 801.4, i.e. with 60% more. This result is due mainly to the indicators of group D (Citations) and group E (Projects), which are two times bigger than required points on account of his active research activity during the period 2018 – 2020.

The specific requirements set in the Regulations for acquiring of academic position “Associate Professor” in the Forest Research Institute are complied with them as follows:

- 5 individual publications or of leading author’ publications. Dr. Plamen Glogov has submitted for consideration 2 individual publications (№№ 16p 35) and 25 leading author publications (№№ 3-8, 10-12, 14-15, 21-24, 26-28, 32, 36-37, 41, 45-47) i.e. total 5 times more.
- 3 publications in international journals indexed in world-known basis data. The candidate has 13 of such publications (№№ 2, 7, 8, 11-13, 15,16, 18-22) i.e. 4 times more.
- The works, accepted for publishing should be up to 10% from the common scientific production of the applicant (5 numbers), while he has only one publication in print (№ 23).
- 5 positive citations in international and foreign publications. The applicant has 8 positive citations in international journals [Phytocoenologia Vol. 46 (2016), Vol. 47 (2017); Hacquetia 15/2 (2016), 19/2 (2020); South-East European Forestry (2020); Plant Biosystems (2020); Biologia Futura (2020); Acta entomologica serbica 25/2 (2020)] (D 13.1 – D 13.8) i.e. with 60% more.
- Leader of 1 project at least (priority) and participation in 2 projects at least. The applicant is leader of a contract in competition for financing of fundamental scientific investigations of young scientists and post graduate students (Fund “Scientific studies”, 12.12.2019 – 12.12.2021) (E 20.1) and participant in two international contracts: [CB 007.2.32.170 ‘For everyone saved a tree’ (Forest)] (E 19.1) and “Invasive alien plant species in protected areas on the Danube islands in Bulgaria and Romania” (E 19.2), as well as in 2 national scientific projects (E 18.1, E 18.2).

3. Common description of submitted materials (by type, by importance, by language of publication, by the number of co-authors).

Dr. Plamen Glogov participates in the competition for “Associate Professor” with 47 scientific publications, 10 of which are presented for habilitation work in refereed and indexed issues of world-known basis data with scientific information (1, 2, 4-6, 10-14) (B 1-B 10).

The publications on the announced competition by required groups are as follows:

By type

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| • Publications in scientific journals | 27 |
| • Publications in proceedings of scientific forums | 20 |
| • Scientific-popular articles | 0 |

By importance

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Articles in journals with impact factor (IF) (№№ 2, 13) | 2 |
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• Articles in journals with SJR (№№ 11,12, 21)	3
• Articles in journals without IF and SJR (№№ 1, 3-10, 14-20, 22-24, 25-27)	22
• Articles in proceedings of scientific forums (№№ 28-47)	20
By publication place	
• Scientific publications in refereed and indexed editions of world-known basis data (№№ 1-24)	24
• Scientific articles, published in unrefereed journals with scientific review (№№ 25-27)	3
• Publications in proceedings of international scientific forums (№№ 29, 30, 33, 35-45)	14
• Publications in proceedings of national scientific forums (№№ 31, 46, 47)	3
• Publications in scientific works of universities and institutes (№№ 28, 32, 34)	3
Language of publication	
• In Bulgarian (№№ 1, 3-6, 9, 10, 14, 24, 25, 27, 29-41, 43-47)	29
• In English (№№ 2, 7, 8, 11-13, 15-23, 26, 28, 42)	18
The number of co-authors	
• Single author (№№ 16, 35)	2
• First author (№№ 3-8, 10-12, 14, 15, 21-24, 26-28, 32, 36, 37, 41, 45-47)	25
• Second author (№№ 20, 25, 30, 31, 33, 34, 38-40, 42, 44)	11
• Third author (№№ 1, 17-19, 43)	5
• Forth and subsequent author (№№ 2, 9, 13, 29)	4

Dr. Plamen Glogov is single and first author of 27 publications or 57% of the total number presented articles – indicator for his leading role of pointed out investigations. Co-authors of his publications are 31 researchers, 28 of them from the Forest Research Institute, Forestry University and Sofia University, as well as 3 – from Romania and Greece. The most are his common articles with Eng. Mira Georgieva – 34 (72% of the total number of the applicant publications). It can be assumed that some co-authors of common publications on higher flora of Lozen Mt. have an insignificant part in these investigations as the PhD thesis of Eng. Plamen Glogow is on Lozen Mt. flora. At least 5 of these publications (№№ 6, 12, 24, 26, 27) are almost entirely his work and could be considered as independent research i.e. their common number comes to 7 (plus №№ 16,35).

The scientific articles published in journals are predominantly in: Forest science – 11, Sylva Balcanica – 5, followed by Phytologia Balcanica – 3, Ecologia Balcanica, Phytocoenologia and Ecological Engineering & Environmental Protection – by 2, Botanikai Közlemények, Bio Notes – by 1.

4. Main direction in research of the applicant and the most important scientific contributions.

The main directions of his research activities are:

- 4.1 Botanical and dendrological studies.
- 4.2 Phytocoenological studies.
- 4.3 Sylvicultural studies.

The most significant scientific contributions of the applicant are the following ones:

- Possibilities for management of some coppice oak stands as middle-stem stands are established, while other part – for converting into high-stem ones.
- Differentiated management of chestnut (*Castanea sativa* Mill.) for wood production and fruit production is grounded.
- High similarity between the plant communities in black pine (*Pinus nigra* Arn.) plantations with under story *Fraxinus ornus* L. is established on Vitosha, Plana, Lozen and Stara planina.
- Invasive processes of foreign plant species on Lozen Mt. and some Danube islands are analyzed.
- Ruderal plant communities along the Black sea coast between Nessebar and Ravdas are established.

The main scientific contributions of the ten articles (B 1 – B 10) incorporated under monographic title “Floristic and phytocoenology studies in the forests as scientific base of forestry practice in the country” can be summarized in:

- 11 syntaxons in four altitudinal belts from 950 to 1800 m a. s. l. along transect (Lift station “Dragalevtsi – Bare pick”) of Nature park “Vitosha” are established.
- A method including approaches at study of dendro-flora by taxonomical, ecological-biological, phytogeographical and economical features is developed.
- An analyze of origin and distribution of dendro-flora on Lozen Mt. is carried out.
- The plant communities of thermophilic oak forests in Bulgaria from Black sea till their upper limit (1200 – 1400 m a. s. l.) are classified and characterized.

5. The most important scientific-applied contributions and embedded activity.

Towards them can refer:

- A method for monitoring of autochthonous forests on some Danube islands and influence of invasive plant species is made.
- Data base for vegetation of several Balkan countries – Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Serbia and Montenegro are created.
- A commencement of conservation strategy for population protection of east platan (*Platanus orientalis* L.) in the region of Petrich, Kressna, Ivaylovgrad and Melnik is initiated.

- A vegetation map at gorge of Iskar river between Plana and Lozen Mt. is made.
- Possibilities for limiting of invasive species distribution by mechanical ways, pasture and herbicides are pointed out.

Embedded activity is well indicated through the participation in three national and two international projects.

6. Reflection of scientific publications of the applicant in the literature (reference).

The publications of Dr. Plamen Glogov were cited 21 times in:

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| • Scientific issues in refereed and indexed editions of well-known basis data (D 13) | 8 |
| • Proceedings with scientific review (D 14) - number of citations | 12 |
| • Unrefereed journals with scientific review (D 15) | 1 |

The references are in 7 scientific journals: Phytocoenologia, Hacqueta, South-East European Forestry, Plant Biosystems, Biologia Futura, Acta entomologica Serbica, Trakia Journal of Sciences and in 3 proceedings from the total 44 researchers (10 – Bulgarians and 34 – foreigners from Germany, Italy, Hungary, Bosnia & Herzegovina and international teams from other 8 European countries).

7. Participation in scientific and applied projects.

He took part in 5 projects, 3 of them national and 2 international ones as follows:

- The influence of climatic changes on forest ecosystems. The sub-project is part of the National scientific program “Environmental protection and risk reduction from unfavorable phenomena and natural disasters” (E 18.1).
- Accomplishment of analyses and studies on species and natural habitats in Bulgaria (E 18.2).
- ‘For everyone saved a tree’ (Forest) (E 19.1).
- Invasive alien plant species in protected areas on the Danube islands in Bulgaria and Rumania (E 19.2).
- Study on distribution and influence of invasive alien species - *Impatiens glandulifera* on natural sites in Iskar river gorge (E 20.1).

8. Teaching activity (leader/consultant of PhD students, training of University students etc.)

He has trained students at Forestry University – Sofia on 4 subjects – “Botany”, “Phytocoenology”, “Medical botany” and “Ornamental plants” during the period 1998 – 2006 i.e. before getting of academic position “Chief assistant” (year 2006 in FU and 2018 in FRI-BAS, therefore this activity is not included in the review.

9. Evaluation of the personal contribution of the applicant.

His personal contribution is clear express in single and first author publications – totally 27, while in the others 20 articles he is outlined with botanical and phytocoenological studies.

His personal contribution in scientific and scientific-applied projects is determined by civil contract (E 18.2), nomination letter (E 19.1) and administrative contract (E 20.1).

He took part in 8 scientific forums, of them 6 international – totally with 18 reports/ posters (of 10 reports he is leading author). Their total valuation amounts to 32 points.

10. Critical notes and recommendations.

They refer to the following:

- Irregular publication at the rate of years during the period 2004-2021 reaching a peak in year 2020 – 24 articles and by 8 articles in the year 2018 & 2019.
- Incorporation as co-authors of some collaborators with scanty contributions in several articles of which Dr. P. Glogov is leading author.
- Some articles could be combined: G 8.12 and G 8.13, G 8.14 and G 8.15, G 8.20 and G 8.21)
- On the “XXIX International conference for university students and young scientists” in Blagoevgrad (24-25 September 2020) the applicant has presented 6 reports (G 8 14 – G 8.19), but till 2 is the recommended number at a conference.
- Reiteration of a figure in several papers (G 7.6, G 8.2, G 8.5, G 8.16).
- It is desirable to publish some scientific-popular articles.
- The term “Ecosystem utilities” should be replaced by “Ecosystem services” (G 8.6).

11. Personal impressions.

I have not been co-author of common publications as well as participant of scientific forums, where he has presented reports.

Good impressions I have got from the collection of herbarium plants (about 20 illustrations) which Dr. P. Glogov has set in the Forest Research Institute. The leadership of the Institute could entrusted him with the responsibility for maintaining and enriching of Institute herbarium, founded by acad. Boris Stefanov.

His producer’s abilities are successfully applied in the work of amateur artist group at “Dianabad” Library.

12. Conclusion.

Based on the research and scientific-applied contributions of the applicant I recommend Dr. Plamen Stankov Gurov to be elected “Associate Professor” in professional area “Forestry”, scientific specialty “Silviculture incl. Dendrology”.