



A STATEMENT

on the materials submitted for participation in a competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in a professional field 6.5. Forestry, scientific specialty "Forestry, incl. Dendrology", announced by the Institute of Forestry at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in the State Gazette, Issue 12 of February 12, 2021

Candidate for participation in the competition: Assistant Professor Plamen Stankov Glogov, PhD, Institute of Forestry at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

Prepared the statement: Professor Dimcho Zahariev Ivanov, PhD, University of Shumen "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski", appointed a member of the scientific jury by Order No.RD 15-151 of April 15, 2021 of the Director of the Forest Institute at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

1. Brief biographical data.

Assistant Professor Plamen Stankov Glogov, PhD was born on May 25, 1975. He graduated from the University of Forestry, Sofia in 1997 with a degree in environmental engineer. Although the received education is equated to the educational-qualification degree master, he received 2 more master's degrees: in Public Administration at the Institute for Postgraduate Qualification at University of National and World Economy, Sofia (2004) and in Theater Directing at the New Bulgarian University, Sofia (2013). In 2018 he obtained the PhD degree in the scientific specialty "Forestry, including Dendrology". In October 1998 he was appointed an Assistant at the University of Forestry – Sofia. Since May 2002 he has been a Senior Assistant, and since May 2006 he has been an Assistant Professor at the same university. From June 2006 to October 2015, he initially worked at the Ministry of Environment and Water as Chief Expert, and soon after held the positions of Head of Department and Director of a Directorate. For one year (2016–2017) he was a Director at the Via Verde Theater, Sofia. In November 2017 he was appointed as an Assistant, and in August 2018 – as an Assistant Professor at the Institute of Forestry at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

2. Conformity of the submitted documents and materials of the candidate with the minimum requirements, according to the Regulations for the conditions and the order for acquiring a scientific degree and for holding academic positions in the Institute of Forestry at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

The documents and materials submitted by Assistant Professor Plamen Glogov, PhD, fully comply with the minimum requirements under Art. 13 (1) of the Regulations for the conditions and the order for acquiring a scientific degree and for holding academic positions in the Institute of Forestry at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

3. General description of the presented materials.

The set of materials submitted for participation in the competition includes 47 publications, 21 citations, 18 participations in scientific forums and 5 participations in research projects, which do not repeat those submitted for the acquisition of the PhD degree and for the academic position of Assistant Professor.

The list of publications submitted for participation in the competition for the academic position of Associate Professor includes 47 publications, divided into the following groups:

1. In publications that are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information (Web of Science and SCOPUS) – 24 in number.
2. In unrefereed journals with scientific review – 3 in number.

3. Reports published in edited collective volumes - 20 in number.

In addition, a list of publications related to obtaining the PhD degree (outside the competition) is presented – 4 in number, and a list of publications submitted for participation in the competition for the academic position of Assistant Professor (outside the competition) – 4 in number.

The publications for participation in the competition are mainly in Bulgarian – 29 in number and 18 in number are in English. By number of co-authors two of the publications were written independently, without the participation of co-authors, 14 publications are with one co-author, 10 publications have two co-authors and 21 publications have three or more co-authors. The participation on the spot in the collective publications is the following: in 27 publications he is the first author, in 11 publications he is the second author, and in 9 publications he is a third or subsequent author.

To participate in the competition, a list of observed citations is presented, which includes 21 citations. Of them 8 citations are in publications indexed in primary databases. In addition, a list of 8 citations submitted for participation in the competition for the academic position of Assistant Professor (outside the competition) is presented.

The participations in scientific forums are as follows: 14 participations in international and 4 participations in national scientific forums.

Five participations in research projects are presented. Of these, 2 participations are in international, 2 participations are in national projects and 1 management of a national project.

The presented materials fully meet the national mandatory scientometric requirements for holding the academic position of Associate Professor and the criteria in the Regulations for the conditions and the order for acquiring a scientific degree and for holding academic positions in the Institute of Forestry at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

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

The research work of Assistant Professor Plamen Glogov, PhD is focused in three main areas: 1. Botany and Dendrology, 2. Phytocenology, 3. Forestry. Based on the published results, the following most important contributions can be identified:

Scientific contributions:

- For the first time a comprehensive study was conducted on the higher flora of Lozenska Mountain.
- The biological and ecological features of the potentially invasive alien species of *Lupinus polyphyllus* Lindl. on the territory of Lozenska mountain have been studied.
- For the first time a study of the semi-shrub dendroflora of Bulgaria was carried out, including an inventory and characteristics of its main taxonomic, ecological and phytogeographical components.
- A potentially new plant community has been identified, dominated by *Hordeum leporinum* Link and *Bituminaria bituminosa* (L.) Stirt. (Class Stellarietea mediae R. Tx., Lohmeyer et Preising in R.Tx. 1950) in the region of the Black Sea coast between the town of Ravda and the town of Nessebar.
- Phytocenotic studies have been carried out in black pine (*Pinus nigra* Arn.) crops with undergrowth of fraxinus (*Fraxinus ornus* L.) in some of the mountainous areas around Sofia: Vitosha, Plana, Lozenska Planina and Stara Planina.
- Six new for science associations and 4 sub-associations have been established and their phytocenological characteristics have been described.
- The plant diversity in the natural habitats of the eastern plane tree (*Platanus orientalis*

L.) in Bulgaria as a stage towards the creation of a strategy for its conservation has been studied.

- A rare for the country study of the impact of off-road vehicles on the territory of Lozenska Mountain on plant species with conservation status and their localities has been conducted. A high percentage of direct threats from the impact of off-road vehicles on: 61.3% of the species and 42.2% of the localities has been established, and 53.6% of the routes of off-road vehicles represent a real danger for the species with nature protection status.

Scientific-applied contributions:

- Studies have been conducted related to the application of regulations in the use of ornamental plant species for landscaping the roofs and exterior walls of buildings in urban environments.

- Studies related to the biological characteristics and control measures (mechanical, chemical and biological) with the invasive alien species *Impatiens glandulifera* Royale have been performed. This species is included in the List of invasive alien species to Regulation 1143/2014 affecting the European Union.

- The European experience in medium-stem forestry has been studied and the possibilities for implementation of medium-stem forestry in Bulgaria have been analyzed (including calculation and forecast for possible profitability). It is recommended to use it as a system for sustainable management of part of the coppice oak forests and as a method for converting another part of them into high-stemmed forest plantations.

- A review study of the existing problems related to the deteriorating condition of the chestnut forests (*Castanea sativa* Mill.) In Bulgaria has been carried out. Specific silvicultural approaches and measures for their sustainable management are proposed, taking into account the biological and ecological features of the species.

5. The most significant applied contributions, achievements and implementation activities.

Methodical contributions:

- 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. It is proposed to unify the cross-border monitoring of forests along the Danube River and its islands and to support decision-making processes related to the management of protected areas on the Danube Islands.

- A complex methodological approach for dendrofloristic studies has been developed and has been applied in the study of the dendroflora on the territory of Lozenska mountain.

- The complex methodological approach includes a new method for analysis and assessment of the dendroflora according to a complex of ecological-phytogeographic indicators.

- A classification of thermophilic oak forests in Bulgaria by the floristic method has been developed.

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

To participate in the competition, a list of observed citations is presented, which includes 21 citations. They are distributed as follows:

- Citations in *scientific journals referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes* – 8 in number.

- Citations in *monographs and collective volumes with scientific review* – 12 in number.

- Citation in *an unrefereed journal with scientific review* – 1 in number.

Based on these citations, the candidate has 245 points, which is well above the required minimum of 100 points.

7. Participation in research projects.

In the period 2018-2020, Assistant Professor Plamen Glogov, PhD has participated in 5 research projects. Of these, 2 projects are international and 3 projects are national. He is the leader of 1 national project funded by the Research Fund of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria. The large number of the participations for this short period and the importance of the projects testify to his active research activity. As a result, the total number of points on this indicator is twice as high (100 points) as the required minimum of 50 points.

8. Teaching activity.

The presented report for conducted classroom and extracurricular classes shows that the candidate has a teaching activity at the University of Forestry - Sofia in the period 1998-2006. He has conducted laboratory exercises in 4 disciplines in several different specialties in full-time and part-time form of training. This is a valuable experience that has its positive impact on the diverse activities of each researcher, e.g. when presenting the results in scientific forums.

9. Assessment of the candidate's personal contribution.

In the presented scientific production the personal contribution of the candidate is significant. This is convincingly proved both by the large number of publications in which he is the first author and by the mentioned scientific and scientific-applied contributions (due to their large number, only the most important ones are included in item 4 of the statement). The large number of joint publications evidence of his ability to work in a team. The candidate has not submitted separation protocols for the share of his participation in them, therefore I accept this participation as equivalent.

10. Critical remarks and recommendations.

In my opinion, the scientific production submitted for the competition also contains methodological contributions, which are described in item 5 of the statement. They definitely enrich its value, but in the title of the report on the more significant contributions in the works of the candidate only two groups are indicated: scientific and scientific-applied contributions.

11. Personal impressions.

My impressions of the work of Assistant Professor Plamen Glogov, PhD are from 2019 until now. I am very impressed by his ability to work, combined with careful attention to detail during field research and processing and analysis of the results, as well as his ability to work with people.

12. Conclusion.

In connection with the above, I fully believe Assistant Professor Plamen Stankov Glogov, PhD to be elected associate professor in the professional field 6.5. Forestry, scientific specialty Forestry, incl. Dendrology at the Institute of Forestry at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

Date: May 21, 2021

Member of the scientific jury:

(Prof. Dimcho Zahariev Ivanov, PhD)