



SCIENTIFIC STATEMENT

by **Assoc. Prof. Ivanka Vasileva Lulcheva, PhD**
Faculty of Economics,
Agricultural University Plovdiv,
appointed according to **Order No. RD-16-581/15.05.2024** of the Rector of
the **Agricultural University - Plovdiv** as a member of the scientific jury

regarding the competition for "**Associate Professor**"
of **Agricultural University - Plovdiv**

by: field of higher education **3. Social, economic and legal sciences**
professional direction **3.9. Tourism**, in the scientific speciality "**Cultural-Historical Heritage**", announced in SG № 23 of 19.03.2024,

with candidate Chief Assistant Professor **Vidin Stoyanov Sukarev, Ph.D**
Department of Tourism, Faculty of Economics
Agricultural University Plovdiv

1. Brief introduction of the candidate.

Chief Assistant Professor Vidin Stoyanov Sukarev, PhD is only candidate in the current competition. He was born in 1977 and ends your higher education in 2000 at Veliko Tarnovo University "St. St. Cyril and Methodius" as Master of History. In 2009, he successfully defended his dissertation on the scientific specialty "History of Bulgaria" and obtained the PhD. In the period 2000 - 2005, he was a teacher of "History and Civilization" in the field of primary and secondary education. From 2003 until now, he has been working in Regional History Museum - Plovdiv. His academic career began in 2009 as a part-time lecturer at the Agricultural University, and from 2013 until now he has been chief assistant of ½ employment contract at the Department of Tourism, Faculty of Economics at the Agricultural University.

2. General description of the scientific production.

The submitted set of materials and documents related to the present competition are arranged properly in conformity with the Regulations for occupying academic positions at AU Plovdiv.

In the competition for "Associate Professor" Chief Assistant Professor Vidin Sukarev, PhD participates with a total output of 21 works, grouped as follows:

- ❖ *Articles in journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information (Scopus, Web of Science) – 4 issues;*
- ❖ *Articles in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes - 14 issues (of which 12 issues are from participation in scientific forums and conferences);*
- ❖ *Monographs - 2 independent monographs and one chapter of a collective monograph;*

Of the presented publications, 17 of them are independent, in 19 - he is the first author, in 4 – he is the second author. We should note that all articles referenced and indexed in global scientific information databases are also self-contained. The three articles and the chapter of a collective monograph written in co-authorship show that Sukarev, PhD works also excellently in a team. All this speaks of his high professionalism.

In the provided reference, the candidate Vidin Sukarev himself states that one of the presented monographs fulfills the role of habilitation thesis. I accept this fact and would like to point out that this work, entitled "Plovdiv Municipality and the Construction of the Urban and Tourist Infrastructure, 1944-1990. A Study of the Institutional, Economic and Everyday History of Plovdiv", has been reviewed by two reviewers and is a significant development consisting of 447 pages.

To prepare the scientific statement, I have analysed exactly these 21 scientific works.

3. Teaching work.

Dr. Vidin Sukarev has fifteen years of teaching experience at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv. His teaching activity is wide-ranging. As an assistant, he conducted exercises with the students, and after obtaining the PhD, he also gave lectures on the following subjects: Cultural and historical heritage of Bulgaria, Local knowledge, Bulgarian overseas routes, Museum work, Folk psychology, Economic history in a bachelor's course with students from full-time and part-time form of education of the relevant majors studying these disciplines. In recent years, he has also led lecture courses for students of bachelor's degrees in the following disciplines: Political Science, Philosophy, Ethnology, and also "Business Psychology" in a Master's course. Since 2019, the Department of Language Training and Sports at AU has been offering classes on the discipline "Bulgarian Language and Culture" in English for foreign students.

His total auditory and non-auditory employment for the period 2018–2023 significantly exceeds the required minimum hours. The teaching activity of the candidate is complemented by the supervision of more than 10 graduates who have successfully defended their diplomas in the "Bachelor Degree".

4. Scientific research work.

I accept and positively evaluate the contributions formulated in the applicant's author reference, which are a logical consequence of the obtained results and have theoretical and applied importance. The candidate in the competition has a diverse publication activity. In essence, the results of Dr. Sukarev are scientific and practical-applied and can be thematically related to the History and development of tourism and tourist infrastructure in the city of Plovdiv; Local history and folk psychology; Cultural-historical heritage and museum work, which largely corresponds to the identification made by Dr. Sukarev in the author's reference of the contributions.

In his articles, Vidin Sukarev establishes and evaluates the main policies of the local government for the development of tourism, the history and the work of the institutions responsible for the protection of movable and immovable cultural heritage. The candidate studies the contemporary problems of a functional and organizational nature, which are largely the cause of the historical study of the municipal institution about the construction of the urban and tourist infrastructure, the policies and activities of tourism development and many other related aspects.

The Bulgarian folk psychology and value system were examined, to consumer understandings, work and leisure habits, and their determining role in the development of tourism, both in terms of attracting customers from Bulgaria and in the development and optimization of the work of the staff in this area, was determined. an industry.

Issues related to museum work, cultural-historical heritage and its preservation are investigated. The candidate here has a significant contribution to theoretical, practical and I would add also methodological aspects of this field. All presented data, analyses, and recommendations are due to many years of empirical work, combining both the accumulation of knowledge and improvement in language preparation methodology, knowledge of materials, and administrative, regulatory and technical experience.

The scientifically substantiated conclusions drawn in the publications are the result of clear and accessible results and testify to the diversity and objective assessment of Dr. Sukarev's work, which is a significant contribution to practical activity.

Vidin Sukarev has presented a reference of 8 citations of his works, which are in journals referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information. The total number of citations equals 60 points, which not only meets the requirements for holding the position of "Associate Professor" at AU but exceeds them by 10 points.

Participation in scientific projects.

Vidin Sukarev, PhD has not submitted a reference for participation in research projects. His CV shows that he participates in and directs the scientific activities and projects at the Regional History Museum - Plovdiv.

5. Notes and recommendations.

I have no critical remarks and I have one recommendation – that the candidate should develop educational literature (textbooks and aids) in the disciplines he takes.

6. Personal expressions for the candidate.

I am familiar with the academic development of Chief Assistant Professor Sukarev, PhD. I have known him for more than ten years, from a part-time lecturer in the Department of Tourism, the preparation and defence of his doctoral dissertation in the field of history, his growth as a Chief Assistant Professor, as well as his research activities on the current habilitation. I have very good impressions of his personal and professional qualities. It is used with respect and trust both among colleagues and among students. He is an accomplished educator and thorough researcher.

7. Conclusion.

Based on the analysis of the candidate's pedagogical, scientific and scientific-applied activities, I consider that **Chief Assistant Professor Vidin Sukarev, PhD** meets the requirements of ADASRB, the Regulations for application of ADASRB and the AU's Regulations for its application regarding the academic position of "**Associate Professor**" in professional direction **3.9. Tourism**, field of higher education **3. Social, economic and legal sciences**.

Chief Assistant Professor Vidin Sukarev has a clearly defined profile of his teaching and research work. He is established as a professional and competent scientist.

All the above gives me grounds to evaluate the candidate's whole work **POSITIVELY**.

I allow myself to propose to the honourable Scientific Jury to vote **positively**, and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Economics at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv to elect Chief Assistant Professor Vidin Sukarev, PhD, as "**Associate Professor**" in the scientific speciality "Cultural-Historical Heritage", professional direction **3.9. Tourism**, the field of higher education **3. Social, economic and legal sciences**.

07/11/2024
Plovdiv

PREPARE THE SCIENTIFIC STATEMENT:
(Assoc. Prof. Ivanka Lulcheva, PhD)