



## REVIEW

by Prof. Dr. Bratoi Georgiev Koprinarov, University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas, appointed as a member of the scientific jury according to order No. RD-16-581/15.05.2024 of the rector of AU-Plovdiv

regarding a competition for an "associate professor" in the scientific specialty "Cultural-Historical Heritage", field of higher education 3. "Social, economic and legal sciences", professional direction 3.9. "Tourism", scientific specialty "Cultural-Historical Heritage".

The competition for the academic position of "associate professor" has been announced for the needs of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv, and the announcement was published in SG No. 23/19.03.2024.

One candidate participated in the competition. Assistant Professor Vidin Sukarev, Ph.D. The set of materials and documents presented by the candidate is in accordance with the RSARB, the Regulations for the implementation of the RSARB and PRAS in AU – Plovdiv

### **1. General data on the candidate's career and thematic development**

Based on the attached professional resume from the candidate - ch. assistant Dr. Sukarev, I direct the attention of the scientific jury to the following more significant facts from his development and academic experience, which provide grounds for his admission and participation in the competition, namely:

Dr. Vidin Sukarev was born on March 13, 1977 in the city of Plovdiv. In the period 1995-2000, he obtained a master's degree in history from the University of Veliko Tarnovo "St. Cyril and Methodius" - V. Tarnovo. From 2005 to 2009, he was a doctoral student at the Department of Social Sciences and Tourism, Faculty of Economics of AU-Plovdiv. According to the decision of the Supreme Administrative Court dated 19.04.2010, Vidin Sukarev is a "doctor" in history (diploma No. 33965).

Dr. Vidin Sukarev's work after obtaining the educational and scientific degree "doctor" is related to the field of education. Ch. assistant professor Dr. Sukarev successively held the positions of "teacher" in the period from 2000 - 2009 and part-time teacher at AU in 2009 - 2013. During this period, he led lectures and exercises in the disciplines "Economic History", "Cultural Heritage and Museum case". Dr. Vidin Sukarev holds the academic position of "chief assistant" from 01.03.2013 to the present, after successfully passing a competition in scientific field 2. "Humanities", professional direction 2.2. "History and Archaeology".

From 2003 to 2021, Dr. Sukarev was also curator of the Regional History Museum - Plovdiv. In the mentioned years, together with the director of the museum, he led the scientific activities in it, carried out research, searched for and completed the

museum collections, wrote and published scientific production in scientific and information publications.

## **2. General description of the presented materials**

The scientific output of the chief assistant Dr. Vidin Sukarev has more than 50 publications, including and the publications with which he participated for ONS "doctor".

To participate in the competition for the academic position "docent", the candidate indicates 21 scientific publications that are subject to review, including:

- ✓ Monographs - 2 pcs.
- ✓ Articles in peer-reviewed and referenced global databases –
  - articles in Scopus - 1 pc.
  - articles in Web of Science - 3 pcs
- ✓ Articles in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes - 14 nos.
- ✓ Chapter of a monograph - 1 pc

The candidate's personal involvement in the specified 21 scientific works is illustrated by the fact that 18 of them are independent, i.e. over 85%.

- ✓ Textbooks - none attached
- ✓ Study guides - none attached

General Assistant Dr. Vidin Sukarev has a total of 623.33 points with a required minimum of 400 points, i.e. there are 223.3 items above the minimum and additional requirements of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv.

From the analysis of the works provided to the candidate, a convincing conclusion can be drawn that Dr. Sukarev has sufficient publications that fully correspond to the requirements of the announced competition for the academic position "docent" in PN 3.9 "Tourism", scientific specialty "Cultural -historical heritage".

## **3. Main directions in the candidate's research work. Demonstrated skills or aptitude for science-led research.**

General Assistant Dr. Vidin Sukarev, in his publication activity, demonstrates knowledge and skills in a relatively wide range of scientific interests, which can be systematized and grouped into the following main thematic areas:

- research of the historical development of the construction of tourist infrastructure and resources in Plovdiv throughout the twentieth century to the present day
- study of Bulgarian folk psychology.
- local lore, local history and other issues from the circle of settlement and regional studies.
- museology and preservation of cultural heritage

- history of everyday life and institutions.

The main part of Dr. Sukarev's scientific output is distinguished by the following main characteristics:

- there is an optimal combination of theory, methodology and methodology;
- good literary awareness;
- clear, precise and specific topic;
- clear, precise style and specific subject matter;
- clearly expressed authorship

The candidate's publications include significant research results in the field of museum work and tourist resources of the city of Plovdiv. They establish and evaluate 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.

Emphasis in the presented research related to Bulgarian folk psychology is the reasoned disclosure of the specific attitudes and values that have an impact on the mentality of Bulgarians and all other ethno-religious groups of the population, subject to the long-standing local cultural model and found in connection with consumer understandings, labor and vacation habits - in other words, they play a decisive role in the development of tourism, both in terms of attracting customers from Bulgaria, and in the development and optimization of the work of personnel in this industry.

The research carried out by Dr. Sukarev is based on a broad interdisciplinary basis, which combines sciences belonging to the subject, the main ones being history, archaeology, economics, sociology, tourism, architecture and urban planning, restoration and conservation, political science, law, ethnology, museology, but depending on the specific cases, there are points of contact with earth sciences, pedagogy, philology, transport. These publications establish and evaluate 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 main regularities, the genesis and the interrelationships with the internal and external political development of the country, determined by the political and economic vicissitudes in the world, are deduced.

#### **4. Evaluation of the pedagogical preparation and activity of the candidate**

From the provided documentation, it is established that Dr. Vidin Sukarev has been teaching at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv since 2009 as a part-time teacher. Since March 2013, he has been elected as head. half-time assistant, and from 2023 full-time. The candidate is assigned lecture courses and seminar exercises in the disciplines "Cultural heritage and museum work", "Economic history", etc.

I have no direct observations and impressions of Dr. Sukarev's teaching activities, but the information I have from the Agricultural University-Plovdiv reveals that he excels as a responsible teacher and researcher. I can give a very good comprehensive

assessment of his pedagogical activity, based on his relatively long pedagogical experience.

**5. Significance of the obtained results, proven by citations, publications in prestigious journals, awards, membership in international and national scientific bodies.**

The significance of the results obtained by the Chief Assistant Dr. Vidin Sukarev is visible and can be expressed through their coverage and recognition in the scientific community;

The research conducted by Dr. Sukarev, published in his scientific publications, monographs, articles and reports, has been cited 8 times, including 4 four citations in refereed scientific journals in Scopus and 4 in Web of Sciece. The number of citations concerns five scientific publications of the candidate.

The high number of points that Dr. Sukarev formed from his research output clearly shows that his scientific output is substantial and has a place and public influence in scientific circles.

The candidate's publications have been accepted and published in prestigious scientific publications with a high impact factor, referenced in a global database: Scopus and Web of Science.

**6. Significance of contributions for science and practice. A motivated answer to the question to what extent the candidate has a clearly defined profile of research work:**

Basically, I accept the attached reference for the contributions in the publications of Ch. assistant professor Dr. Sukarev, distinguished in the following several scientific directions.

**Contributions of a practical nature:**

1. The main guidelines and problems in the restoration of Old Plovdiv and other key cultural heritage sites are substantiated;
2. The author has established and evaluated 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.
3. An in-depth overview of recent events from a research point of view is offered, including the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Union in 1985.
4. The content side of the activity of the museum curator and museum specialist researcher is revealed.

**Theoretical and methodological contributions:**

1. The close relationship between the development of tourism and museology is expressed in depth and comprehensively, with an emphasis on Plovdiv as the cornerstone of research;
2. The genesis and formation of resources and policies, as well as the place and role of museum institutions and the museum network in Bulgaria, have been revealed and supplemented;
3. The main regularities, the genesis and the interrelationships with the internal and external political development of the country, conditioned by the political and economic vicissitudes in the world, Europe, the Balkans, are deduced;

**Critical notes recommendations**

I have no significant critical comments on the presented scientific product review. I can give the following recommendations for Dr. Sukarev's future scientific and research activities:

- To increase the number of tourist-oriented publications
- To expand his participation in scientific projects related to the professional direction

### **Conclusion**

My comprehensive evaluation of the documentation, scientific works and the contributions contained in them is positive.

There is no proven plagiarism in scientific works according to the law. The candidate, Ch. Associate Professor Vidin Sukarev has fulfilled and exceeded in terms of volume the national and university minimum requirements for occupying the academic position "associate professor".

On the basis of the assessment of the contributions and merits of the scientific production and teaching activity of ch. Assistant Professor Vidin Sukarev, Ph.D., I propose to the honorable Scientific Jury to vote positively for awarding Dr. Sukarev the academic position of "docent" in the field of higher education "Social, Economic and Legal Sciences", professional direction 3.9. "Tourism".

07/08/2024

Burgas

Reviewer: 

/ Prof. Dr. B. Koprinarov/