

## OPINION

regarding  
the competition for "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR" in the scientific  
specialty "Economics and Management - Agriculture", announced  
in the State Gazette No. 99/21.11.2025  
with candidate Dobri Mateev Dunchev  
by Prof. Dr. IVAN YOCHEV BOEVSKY, appointed according to  
Order No. RD 16-132/26.01.2026 of the Rector of the Agricultural  
University - Plovdiv as a member of the scientific jury

### 1. Brief introduction of the candidate.

**DOBRI MATEEV DUNCHEV** is the only candidate in the competition. He is a doctor of agricultural economics and a chief assistant at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv. He has many years of teaching and research experience in the field of precision agriculture, eco-economics and innovations. In addition, he has more than 15 years of practical experience in the UK in the field of planning and management of large teams and HR management in agriculture. He is a member of teams participating in national and international research and educational projects, as well as under the Erasmus + program.

All these participations build him as an interdisciplinary expert, distinguished by significant organizational and communication skills and strategic thinking.

### 2. General description of scientific output.

Senior Assistant Professor Dr. Dunchev participates in the current competition for "associate professor" with a total of **11 scientific papers**. They are structured as follows:

- *Publications with impact factor, referenced and indexed in a global scientific database ( Scopus) and web of science ) – 7 pieces*
- *Publications in peer-reviewed and refereed scientific journals that are referenced in other databases (other than Scopus) and Web of science ) – 2 pieces;*
- *- Monographic studies (monographs) – 1 issue ;*
- *- Published book based on a defended dissertation – 1 issue .*

**A total of 11 scientific publications are subject to analysis and evaluation for the preparation of the opinion.**

### 3. Evaluation of the candidate's teaching activities

The candidate Mr. Dunchev began his academic career as **a teacher at the Agrarian University on 02.03.2020**. He has a total teaching experience of **5 years and 10 months** at the time of submitting the documents for participation in this competition. The submitted certificate from the Agrarian University proves that he has the minimum required experience to hold the academic position of "associate professor".

During his teaching employment at the Agricultural University of Plovdiv, Dr. Dunchev has spent a total of **3,745.2 hours**. This is **an average annual workload of**

**749** hours. This workload **significantly exceeds the 360 hours required by the Agricultural University of Plovdiv.**

The teaching activity is complemented by the supervision of a total of 25 successfully defended graduates (14 bachelor's and 11 master's graduates).

The candidate did not present published teaching aids and/or textbooks in the evaluation documentation. *He could direct his efforts in this direction .*

Dr. Dunchev is submitting documents for participation in 3 educational projects funded by the ERASMUS program , as a member of the project team of the University of Plovdiv. In addition, he has implemented a total of 4 mobilities under the ERASMUS program in the last 5 years.

#### **INTERIM EVALUATION**

*Based on the available data and findings set out in point 3, I can undoubtedly make the following assessment: The candidate demonstrates sufficient and successful involvement in the educational activities and academic development of the University of Plovdiv as a responsible and correct lecturer. I consider this to be a completely sufficient argument for occupying the position of "associate professor".*

#### **4. Scientific research activity.**

##### **4.1.Areas of publication**

The candidate's scientific output is in the field of agricultural economics and management. I highlight the following focuses:

- precision and digital agriculture,
- innovation and sustainable development,
- analysis of the economic, technical and environmental efficiency of innovative and precision technologies,
- the possibilities for their practical implementation in various agricultural productions,
- impact of climate change on agriculture and the potential of precision and digital technologies for adaptation, mitigation of negative effects and increasing the sustainability of agricultural systems.

Another part of his publications is dedicated to the processes of adoption and diffusion of innovations in agriculture, including conceptual models, institutional and economic barriers, the role of public policies and the attitudes of agricultural producers. These studies have interdisciplinary characteristics.

#### **INTERIM EVALUATION**

The field of publication is multifaceted and interdisciplinary and is focused on the field of agriculture. His scientific work demonstrates a high degree of thematic integrity, relevance and practical application . I believe that it *represents a contribution to the development of academic education in the field of agriculture .*

##### **4.2. Citing and referencing scientific production**

The candidate presents over 120 citations and abstracts of scientific publications in which he worked independently or in a team. *I believe that these are completely sufficient for holding the position of "associate professor".*

##### **4.3. Participation in scientific projects.**

In the report on participation in projects issued to the candidate by the Academy of Sciences, candidate Dunev participated in a total of 5 scientific and/or educational projects, which are funded by the "Scientific Research Fund" of the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, and European scientific programs. Therefore, Dr. Dunchev 's project activity is significant, which gives him the opportunity to teach current problems to students and publish current and modern scientific articles. *I believe that they are completely sufficient for holding the position of "associate professor".*

#### **5. Notes and recommendations.**

I have no critical remarks about him or his work.

I recommend that he expand his academic activities into writing textbooks and teaching aids, as he has already gained sufficient experience, information, and skills.

#### **6. Conclusion.**

All of the above gives me reason to evaluate with full conviction **POSITIVELY** the teaching, scientific and applied scientific activities of the candidate **Dobri Mateev Dunchev** . In addition, he meets the requirements of the Law on the Education of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Law on the Education of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations of the Agrarian University for its application. **This assessment constitutes my basis for unconditionally believing and declaring that he is extremely suitable** for the position of "**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**".

In this regard, I would like to propose with full conviction and without any doubts to the Scientific Jury **to vote positively**, and to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Economics at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv to elect Mr. **Dobri Mateev Dunchev** as "**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**" in the scientific specialty "**Economics and Management - Agriculture**".

Date: 13.02.2026  
City of Plovdiv

**PREPARED THE OPINION**  
(Prof. Dr. Ivan Boevsky )

