

Review

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on competition for the fill of academic position „Professor“ in the Faculty of Geology and Exploration of the University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski” in scientific field 4.4. Earth Sciences and scientific specialty „Methods and techniques of the geological investigations“, with a single applicant Associated-Professor PhD **Ivan Dimitrov Ivanov**.

The review is elaborated according to the requirements of the Law for Development of the academic staff in Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulation for application of the LDASRB and the Regulations of the University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski” for occupation of the academic positions (Appendix 1).

The documentation and materials presented by the applicant in the competition correspond to the requirements of the LDASRB, the Regulation for application of the LDASRB and the Regulations of the University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski” for occupation of the academic positions. The documentation mentioned is complete and detailed, in which the publications for the present competition are clearly separated in the general list of publications from those presented for the obtention of the academic position “Associated-Professor”.

Assessment of the fulfilment of the minimal national requirements for the scientific field

Indicator A

Indicator 1: Dissertation for holding educational and scientific degree PhD.

The applicant possesses educational and scientific degree PhD and fulfills this indicator.

Group of indicators V (B in Bulgarian).

Indicator 4. Habilitation thesis – scientific publications.

The applicant presents 9 scientific publications on this indicator. In four articles the applicant is first author, second author in one article, third author in three articles and fourth author in a single article in the authorship list. Leading participation has the applicant in the authorship list of articles in national journals with low impact factor (< 1 , Review of the Bulgarian Geological Society), as well as in one article with high impact factor (>1 , Engineering Geology, IF = 10.3). Three of the articles are extended abstracts from international conferences.

The applicant's points for indicator 4 surpass the required minimal number of points.

Group of indicators G (Г in Bulgarian).

Indicator 7. Scientific publication in issues, which are referred/indexed in world-known data bases of scientific information.

The applicant presents in this indicator 37 scientific publications, which are 13 in number because the rest of the publications fall into indicator 8. In seven of them the applicant is first author, in three publications is second author and third author in three publications. The publications represent scientific articles in journals with low impact factor/rang (Review of the Bulgarian Geological Society, Annual of the University of Mining and Geology "St. Ivan Rilski", Geologica Balcanica), among which three of the publications represent extended abstracts from the annual conference "Geosciences" of the Bulgarian Geological Society and other two publications are extended abstracts from the international conference SGEM.

Indicator 8. Scientific publications in non-referred journals with scientific reviewing or in edited collective volumes.

To this indicator are assigned 24 of the publications of the applicant (G 7,8, 10,11, 13-25, 27, 29, 31-33, 36 and 37). In nine of them the applicant is first author, in nine publications is second author and third author in five publications. The publications represent scientific articles in journals Review of the Bulgarian Geological Society, Annual of the University of Mining and Geology "St. Ivan Rilski", Geologica Balcanica, Engineering Geology and

Hydrogeology, among which six of the publications represent extended abstracts from the annual conference “Geosciences” of the Bulgarian Geological Society.

Overall, in the group of indicators G (indicators 7 and 8), the publications of the applicant surpass required minimal number of points for this group of indicators.

Publication activity of the applicant

The applicant Associated-Professor PhD Ivan Ivanov has presented 46 scientific publications in this competition.

Scientific articles: Twenty-three scientific articles are presented in specialized international scientific journals on Earth Sciences non-referred and referred and indexed by Scopus/Web of Science with impact factor or impact rang, in which the applicant has leading role in authorship list.

Abstracts: In the standard and extended abstracts (14 presented in the competition) of the presentations published in proceeding volumes of national and international scientific conferences, the applicant has dominant leading role.

The applicant’s publications fall in the field of the scientific specialty “Methods and techniques of the geological investigations” on which the competition is advertised, where they are focused on the prospection and exploration of mineral deposits, morphotectonic geomorphologic, geochemical and geotechnical investigations. The publications of the applicant are mainly connected to prospection and exploration and the role of ore-controlled fault systems in the gold deposit Milin Kamak in the Sredna Gora zone, the cooper deposit Krumovo in the Sakar-Strandzha zone and deposits in the Appalachians of Northern America. These publications are also characterized by tectono-stratigraphic and structural-geological scope and have contributed to the clarification of numerous features of distinct lithostratigraphic units and their structure in the Sredna Gora and Sakar-Strandzha zones and parts of the Balkan zone.

In the research profile of the applicant is outlined scientific direction by publications, which combine geochemical and hydrochemical investigations and geotechnical investigations.

These publications include investigations of soil and waters, with a contribution to the enhancement of our knowledge of the pedology of the Thracian, Black Sea and Aegean basins and the adaptation of structural models for geotechnical purposes.

An additional scientific direction is also outlined by the publications dealing with distinct morphotectonic and geomorphologic phenomena in the Struma River Valley and adjacent territories, which have applied contributions for the clarification of the river network and terraces by the use of GIS.

The scientific publications of the applicant presented in this competition **fully correspond to and surpass the minimal national requirements** according to LDASRB (group of indicators V, indicator 4; group of indicators G, indicators 7 and 8) and the requirements according to the Regulations of the University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski” for occupation of the academic positions.

Group of indicators D (Д in Bulgarian).

Indicator 11. Citations or reviews in scientific issues referred and indexed in world-known data bases of scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes. (Scopus и/или WoS)

Fifteen of the applicants' publications are cited in referred and indexed issues, of which 1 publication has received 4 citations, 6 publications received each of them 2 citations, and 8 publications have received only a single citation. Overall, 24 citations.

Indicator 12. Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific reviewing.

One of the applicants' publications has a single citation in monographs and collective volumes with scientific reviewing.

Indicator 13. Citations or reviews in non-referred journals with scientific reviewing.

Two of the publications of the applicant have received each of them 2 citations in non-referred journals with scientific reviewing, and four others have received each of them only a single citation. Overall, 8 citations.

Overall, on the group of indicators D (indicators 11, 12 and 13) the citations of the applicant surpass the required minimal number of points for this group of indicators.

Citations of the applicant publications presented on the competition

Overall, thirty-three citations of 22 publications are presented by the applicant on this competition, which are published in the period of years from 2003 to 2025. The low h-index = 2 of the applicant in Scopus (9 publications, 10 citations) demonstrates a weak recognition by the international and national scientific community of the scientific results contained in these publications and their impact on these communities.

The points counting on the citations of the scientific publications of the applicant presented on the competition **surpass the minimal national requirements** according to LDASRB (group of indicators D, indicators 11, 12 and 13) and the requirements according to the Regulations of the University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski” for occupation of the academic positions.

Group of indicators E (E in Bulgarian).

Indicator 15. Supervision of successful PhD student

The applicant has acted as a director of the thesis of three successful PhD students, which determines 150 points in this indicator.

Indicator 16. Participation in national scientific or educational project

The applicant presents participation in eleven national scientific projects. Six of them are according to the Article № 9 of the Ministry of Education and Science i.e. internal for the University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski”, which projects must be removed from

the list because they are not connected to national competitive basis. This determines 50 points in this indicator.

Indicator 18. Leading of national scientific or educational project

The applicant presents leadership in four national scientific projects. All of them are according to the Article № 9 of the Ministry of Education and Science i.e. internal for the University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski”, which projects must be removed from the list because they are not connected to national competitive basis. This determines no points in this indicator.

Overall, in the group of indicators E (indicators 15, 16 and 18) the 200 points for PhD student supervision and project activity obtained by the applicant surpass the required minimal number of points for this group of indicators.

Conclusion

The applicant in this competition fully corresponds to the requirements of the LDASRB and the Regulations of the University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski” for occupation of the academic position “Professor” relative to previous academic position, earned scientific degree, scientific publication presented, contributions, citations, professional activity etc. The points obtained in distinct indicators **surpass the minimal national requirements** according to LDASRB and the requirements according to the Regulations of the University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski” for occupation of the academic positions.

According to the positive evaluation of the applicant on the competition for fill of the academic position “**Professor**” in scientific field 4.4. Earth Sciences and scientific specialty „Methods and techniques of the geological investigations“, I recommend to the members of the scientific jury to motivate a proposition to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Geology and Exploration in the University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski” “**yes**” for the election of the Associated-Professor PhD **Ivan Dimitrov Ivanov** in this academic position.

Sofia, 07/22/2026

Reviewer:

/Corr. Memb. Prof. DSc Nikolay Bonev/