

STATEMENT

By Dilian Georgiev Georgiev

Associate professor at PU "P. Hilendarski", Faculty of Biology, cat. Ecology and Environmental Conservation, member of a scientific jury appointed by Order No. 112/28.12.2023 of the Director of the Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, BAS

Subject: Application for the academic position of "Associate Professor" announced in State Gazette 92/03.11.2023, in the field of higher education: 4. "Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Informatics"; professional field: 4.3. "Biological Sciences"; scientific specialty: "Ecology and Conservation of Ecosystems" at the Institute of Genetics "Fauna, Taxonomy, and Ecology of Invertebrates"/Section "Biodiversity and Ecology of Invertebrates"/Department "Animal Diversity and Resources."

Applicant in the competition: Teodora Marius Teofilova

1. Brief Biographical Information

Born on August 18, 1978. Teodora Marius Teofilova graduated from the University of Forestry, Sofia, with ecological specialties in 2001 (Bachelor's degree) and 2004 (Master's degree). She defended her doctoral dissertation at Sofia University, Faculty of Biology, in 2013, specializing in "Ecology and Conservation of Ecosystems." Since April 2, 2015, she has been employed under a permanent employment contract as a Chief Assistant at the Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

2. Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Academic Position

In accordance with the provided reference and documents, the candidate meets the legal requirements, namely:

The national minimum requirements for the relevant academic position according to the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and its implementing regulations.

The requirements outlined in the Regulation on the Conditions and Procedures for the Acquisition of Academic Degrees and the Occupation of Academic Positions in the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS) and the Regulation on the Conditions and Procedures for the Acquisition of Academic Degrees and the Occupation of Academic Positions in the Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

The candidate has accumulated the required number of points for obtaining the academic position of "Associate Professor" as per the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, specifically:

Doctoral thesis for the award of the educational and scientific degree of "Doctor" (50 points).

Scientific publications in journals that are referenced and indexed in globally recognized databases with scientific information (Web of Science and Scopus), used in the habilitation work (105 points).

Other publications beyond the habilitation work (232 points).

Citations in scientific publications, monographs, collective volumes, and patents, referenced and indexed in globally recognized databases with scientific information (Web of Science and Scopus) (68 points).

The total number of points is 455, exceeding the required 400 points as stipulated by the law. The candidate has demonstrated excellence in academic achievements and research contributions, making her well-qualified for the position of "Associate Professor."

I highly appreciate the scientific activity and production of Dr. Teodora Teofilova. The majority of the publications included in the competition documents are in journals with quartile (Q) rankings. According to indicator B4, she presents seven articles, with one in a Q1 journal, one in a Q2 journal, two in a Q3 journal, and three in a Q4 journal. For indicator G7, she has the following number and corresponding quartiles of journals: 1 (Q1), 8 (Q3), and 9 (Q4). The candidate actively participates in numerous research projects focused on the study and conservation of biological diversity. She conducts intensive field and laboratory work. The presented citations for her scientific articles total 34 across 18 articles where she is an author and co-author, and these articles are published in prestigious scientific journals.

I have no critical comments or recommendations for the candidate.

Conclusion:

The documentation reviewed by me indicates that the candidate exceeds the minimum required scoring for the academic position of "Associate Professor" according to the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. I express my confident "YES" regarding the award of the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education: 4. "Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Informatics"; professional field: 4.3. "Biological Sciences"; scientific specialty: "Ecology and Conservation of Ecosystems" at the Institute of Genetics "Fauna, Taxonomy, and Ecology of Invertebrates"/Section "Biodiversity and Ecology of Invertebrates"/Department "Animal Diversity and Resources," Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, to Teodora Marius Teofilova. I wish her many more future successes in her work!

20.01.2024

Plovdiv

Sincerely:

/D. Georgiev/