

STANDPOINT

by competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor"
in the field of higher education 5. Technical sciences,
professional field 5.2. "Electrical engineering, electronics and automation",
specialty "Automated Information Processing Systems and Control"
(Technical means of automation, Design of control systems)
announced in the State Gazette No. 48 of 13.06.2025.

with candidate: **Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Eng. Georgi Ivanov Mihalev**

Member of the scientific jury: **Prof. Dr. Eng. Nikola Nikolaev Nikolov**

1. General characteristics of the candidate's research and applied scientific activities.

The candidate's scientific research and applied scientific activity is expressed in the publication and research activities with which he/she participates in the announced competition, according to the groups of indicators of the national minimum requirements for holding the position of "Associate Professor" regulated in the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB).

The candidate fulfills the requirement of Art. 24 (1) item 1 of the LDASRB, because on the basis of a defended dissertation on the topic "Intelligent Control of a Class of Discrete Technological Processes", he was issued diploma No. 0071/20.09.2017, for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "doctor".

The works submitted for participation in the competition for "associate professor" are systematized according to the LDASRB and The Regulations for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Holding Academic Positions (RASDHAP) of the Technical University of Gabrovo. To participate in the competition, the candidate submits a total of 44 scientific publications, 11 of which are in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information SCOPUS. One of all 11 publications in SCOPUS has an SJR of 0.203. Of the 44 publications submitted, 19 are in English and 25 are in Bulgarian. The candidate has 4 independent publications and 2 of them are indexed in SCOPUS. In 14 publications, the candidate is the first author, in 13 publications he is the second author and in 13 publications he is the third author.

11 scientific publications, equivalent to a monographic work, are grouped, which are in editions, refereed and indexed in global scientific databases.

A report is presented certifying the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements according to the LDASRB and the minimum requirements from RASDHAP in TU-Gabrovo. The report shows that the requirements for all groups of indicators are exceeded as follows: group A – 50 points (50 points required), group B – 271 points (100 points required), group D – 266.72 points (200 points required), group E – 85 points (50 points required)

From the analysis of the works submitted for the competition, it follows that the peer-reviewed publications do not repeat those submitted for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "doctor", which satisfies the requirements of Art. 24 (1) item 1, item 3 and item 4 of the LDASRB.

Chief Asst. Prof. Dr. Georgi Ivanov Mihalev has participated in 7 scientific projects of

TU-Gabrovo with a total duration of 8 years. The projects are mainly engineering issues and create conditions for obtaining innovative solutions to the set goals. There is no evidence of implementation activity presented, but from the candidate's CV and 8 of the publications in section "D" it can be concluded that his work is closely related to several industrial enterprises.

The above data provide grounds for a positive assessment of the candidate's scientific research and applied scientific activities, which satisfy the requirements of the LDASRB.

2. Assessment of the candidate's pedagogical training and activities.

Chief Asst. Prof. Dr. Georgi Ivanov Mihalev has been part of the staff of the Department of Automation, Information and Control Engineering of the Faculty of EE at TU-Gabrovo since 2017, thereby meeting the requirement of Art. 24 (1) item 2 of the LDASRB.

In recent years, the candidate has lectured in 4 disciplines, conducted laboratory exercises in 8 disciplines, and conducted course design in 2 disciplines..

From 2017 to the present, Chief Assistant Professor Mihalev has supervised 33 graduate students, reviewed 44 theses and has been a member of State Examination Committees for the defense of theses.

The candidate has published: 1 textbook on "Programming and Using Computers" in collaboration with Assoc. Prof. Stanimir Yordanov and an independent publication of a manual for laboratory exercises on "Design of Control Systems".

The data thus indicated give me reason to assume that Senior Assistant Professor Dr. Georgi Mihalev has extensive teaching experience and a significant contribution to the training of engineering personnel.

3. Main scientific and applied scientific contributions.

After defending his doctoral dissertation, Senior Assistant Professor Georgi Mihalev works in 4 thematic areas: Modeling and control of electro-hydraulic systems; Artificial intelligence and machine learning in automation; Automation and robotics and Intelligent systems for monitoring and controlling processes.

From the presented report on the candidate's scientific contributions, it can be stated that the largest number of contributions is related to modeling and control of electro-hydraulic systems. In this area, he claims a total of 8 scientific and applied and applied contributions. The remaining 10 claims are distributed in the other 3 thematic areas.

The scientific works contain sufficient significance and number of scientific and applied contributions that correspond to the scientific specialty of the competition.

I accept the contributions formulated by the candidate in the works with which he participates in the competition, as I believe that the results have a scientifically applied and applied nature and can be defined as enriching the thematic areas in which the candidate works with new knowledge.

4. Significance of contributions to science and practice.

The quantitative indicators of the criteria for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor" have been met, and in some groups of indicators the candidate significantly exceeds the minimum requirements.

The candidate participates in the competition with 11 publications in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information and 33

publications in non-refereed journals with scientific review or in edited collective volumes.

The candidate presents a total of 15 proven citations by other authors in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases, in monographs and in non-refereed journals with scientific review. I accept that this number is up to the moment of submission of the documents for participation in the competition and that newly appeared citations are not included. The data presented in this way give me reason to conclude that the research has been provided with the necessary publicity.

Chief Asst. Georgi Mihalev meets the requirement of Art. 24 (1) item 5 of the LDASRB, as I accept the Declaration submitted by the candidate that there is no plagiarism proven in accordance with the statutory procedure in the scientific papers submitted for participation in this competition.

5. Critical notes and recommendations.

I have no significant critical remarks towards Senior Assistant Professor Georgi Mihalev regarding the scientific production presented in the competition.

Considering the candidate's teaching and research experience, I would like to recommend to Chief Asst. Prof. Georgi Mihalev to focus his efforts on working with PhD students in order to pass on his scientific experience to the next generation of Bulgarian researchers in the field of engineering sciences. I believe that this would provide him with the opportunity to participate not only in university, but also in long-term national and international projects.

CONCLUSION

I accept that the candidate in the competition has fulfilled the requirements of the LDASRB and the RASDHAP at the Technical University-Gabrovo.

Based on the familiarization with the presented scientific works, their significance, the scientific-applied and applied contributions contained in them, I find it reasonable to propose that Senior Assistant Professor Dr. Eng. Georgi Ivanov Mihalev take up the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific field 5. Technical Sciences, professional field 5.2. Electrical Engineering, Electronics and Automation, specialty - "Automated Information Processing and Control Systems" (Technical means of automation, Design of control systems).

Date: 30.10.2025 г.

JURY MEMBER:

/ Prof. Dr. Eng. Nikola Nikolov /