



## OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Vasil Hristov Georgiev, Higher School of Security and Economics, Mon 9.1. National Security on the scientific ones works for participation in a competition for borrowing on the academic Position "associate professor" , Professionally direction 9.1. National Security, announced in State Gazette (SG) No 28/02/04/2024, with candidate Chief Assistant Professor Dafinka Vasileva Sidova, PhD

### **I. Assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements and the requirements of the New Bulgarian University**

The attachments to the procedure references , diplomas and others documents certify that the candidate Dafinka Sidova, Ph.D, has fulfilled the requirements on The law of Development on the Academic Staff in the Republic Bulgaria /LDASRB/, relevant for the occupation of the academic position “associate professor” under PN 9.1. National security ”.

The candidate has submitted evidence of completed teaching activity in NBU that exceeds the minimum requirements under Art. 24, para. 1, item 2 of the LDASRB.

The candidate has submitted evidence of a dissertation work, with which she certifies the fulfillment of the requirement of Art. 24, para. 1, item 1 of the LDASRB and of indicator A of the minimum national requirements for occupying the position of "associate professor".

The candidate fulfills the requirements specified in Art. 56 of the Rules for the Development of the Academical Staff of the NBU (RDAS).

The candidate has fulfilled the minimum requirements of the NBU for holding the academic position "associate professor", specified in Appendix 2 of the RDAS of the NBU

I am presenting a table of compliance of the candidate's activity with the minimum national requirements (LDRASRB Rules of Implementation) and with the requirements of the NBU (RDAS of the NBU ) for occupying the academic position of "associate professor".

<b>Group of indicators</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Minimum number of points required</b>	<b>Number of points from the applicant's activities</b>
A	1	50	50
IN	3	100	100
D	5, 7, 9 and 10	200	255
D	12 and 13	50	102.5
Z	23-25, 32 and 33	50	60

H	36-41	70	100
And	43-45, 48-50	50	90
<b>Total</b>		<b>570</b>	<b>757.5</b>

## I I. Research ( creative ) activity and results

The presented monographic work is entitled *Human security through European territorial cooperation: benefits, challenges, perspectives (the example of the Republic of Bulgaria)*. It was published in 2023, Sofia, Scientific and Technical Union of Mechanical Engineering "Industry 4.0", with ISBN 978-619-7383-32-4.

The research aims to examine the achieved results of cross-border, transnational and interregional projects with the participation of the Republic of Bulgaria, through which the three pillars of human security are ensured - freedom from fear, freedom from want and freedom to live in dignity. As a result of the study, the study formulates recommendations related to the current program period 2021-2027.

Issues related to human security have been a well-studied phenomenon in recent decades, as the times in which, add additional content and challenges to them. Exploring the contribution of cross-border, transnational and inter-regional cooperation to the dimensions of human security is one of the most current and under-researched topics in the field of security. It is the connectivity between communities that is among the most direct ways to achieve human security. To in a determines the topicality of the topic.

The main research hypothesis that is defended is that European territorial cooperation has the capacity (both qualitative and quantitative) to ensure human security , but this capacity is not fully used effectively by the Republic of Bulgaria, which limits the benefits for human security, especially in the context of cross-border and interregional cooperation.

In the study of the interaction between the two phenomena - cooperation and security, the candidate introduces two criteria for evaluating the effect of cooperation - the criterion of constructivism based on the theory of social constructivism and the criterion of functionality.

The two criteria are complementary in the study of the different parts of the subject.

the constructivist criteria explores the human security three pillars (freedom from fear, freedom from want and freedom to live in dignity) and the its seven dimensions (political security, personal securit , health security, economic security, food security, environmental security and community security ) of the concept for the human security. The functional criteria is applied in the assessment of the three types of European territorial cooperation - cross-border, transnational and interregional. The selected criteria allow the clarification of the main question in the research - in what way regional, cross-border and international cooperation influence human security in general and its aspects in particular.

Therefore, as a scientific contribution of the study, it should be highlighted in the introduction of the criteria for constructivism and functionalism in the study of the concept of human security and European cooperation. The contribution arises from the fact that combining on these criteria allows Better evaluation on efficiency on the European one territorially cooperation . Through the constructivist approach they can Yes everything discover new ones ways for perception and addressing on the questions on the human security . The functional one approach , from his own country , can Yes suggested practically solutions and methods for application on these new ones perceptions .

As a contribution it should be highlighted the adoption of specific metrics for evaluating cooperation number of implemented projects, general value on realized projects , general value on the European financing on realized projects and the number on the participants in the implemented projects. Any from these metrics reflects the insurance on determined resources which contribute for the human security.

In conclusion, based on the evaluation of the presented monograph, I consider that the candidate has achieved the objectives of the research. The relationship between cooperation in its three types and human security has been studied in their dynamics and interaction, which is why appropriate conclusions and recommendations have been given in the conclusion.

In the candidate's other submitted papers it is clear that her research interests are in the field of human security and its relation to sustainable development, environmental security, economic security, food security

### **III. Teaching activity**

The applicant's annual workload for the academic year 2023/2024 exceeds the required hours of 180 classroom hours and 60 training hours - a total of 264 classroom hours and 420 extra-auditory/training hours:

The candidate has 9 classroom courses and supervises 5 seminars, the project and the internship

Dr. Sidova is a participant in 4 student projects and is the head of one of the tph

The average rating from the student satisfaction surveys for course and instructor is 4.85 out of a maximum of 5 .

### **IV. Administrative and public activity**

The candidate has an active administrative activity at the NBU. She was a member of the NBU Student Council for the term 2009-2010. She is a member of the Academic Council of the NBU for the period of 2010-2011. Subsequently, she took part in the administration of the NBU - as a consultant in candidate student campaigns, as an intern, and subsequently as the "Masters" secretary at the Master's Faculty of the NBU. Since 2020, she has been a member, and since 2020 - director of the Program Council of the Department of National and International Security.

## **V. Personal impressions from the candidate**

My personal impressions of Chief Assistant Dr. Dafinka Sidova are collegial and related to her professional activity as a researcher in the field of human security. I believe that Ch. Dafinka Sidova, assistant professor, is one of the most thorough researchers in this field.

## **V I. Opinions , recommendations and notes by activity and achievements on the candidate**

I would advise Chief As. Dr. Dafinka Sidova to focus her research on the challenges of understanding the concept of human security and cooperation in the context of the new emphasis that societies are focusing on military security. It would be important to track these trends as they will shape the future understanding of security

## **Conclusion**

1. On the basis of the findings and conclusions developed above in the opinion, I accept that the candidate's works submitted for evaluation fully correspond to the subject matter of the announced contest for the academic position "associate professor" in professional direction 9.1. National Security.

2. I believe that the candidate chief assistant Dr. Dafinka Vasileva Sidova, has the necessary qualifications, work and professional competence, and personal qualities and meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff and the Regulations for its Application, as well as the Regulations on the Development of the Academic Staff of the NBU for successful work to the academic position of "associate professor" in the indicated professional direction.

3. In view of the above, with full conviction I express a completely positive assessment of the candidacy of Ch. assistant professor, Dr. Dafinka Vasileva Sidova, I propose to the esteemed scientific jury to select the candidate for the academic position "associate professor" according to the competition and his admission to election by the Academic Council.

**09.07.2024**

**Signature :**