

P O S I T I O N

by

Jacques Vilrocx– Professor at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

Co-founder and Director of the Belgian-Bulgarian Association “Best2B”

Concerning: competition, announced by VFU “Chernorizets Hrabar” for filling the academic position of Associate Professor in the professional field „Administration and Management”/ European Integration, EU Institutional System/published in the State Gazette issue No 103 of 23 December 2011.

In my capacity of a **member of the jury**, appointed to conduct the competition - / *Order of the Rector of VFU „Ch. Hrabar” No 401 of 22 February 2012*/ I have got acquainted with the documents related to the announcement and conducting of the competition, as well as with the documents of the candidates, who have filed an application to take part in it. Therefore, I hereby present the following position:

1. The competition has been announced under procedure following the Bulgarian Act for Development of the Academic Staff and the Regulations for its Applications. All the requirements, procedures and deadlines have been complied with.
2. The only candidate at the competition is Sen. Assist. Prof. Krasimir Aleksandrov Nedyalkov, Ph.D. He meets all the requirements for participation in the competition and has provided the necessary documents for the competition procedure within the announced deadline. I am acquainted with the scientific production presented by him for the participation in the competition, as well as with the references for his educational activities and other documents validating his work experience, educational background and qualification.

The candidate has twice graduated higher education with Master’s degrees, respectively in Economics and Management of International Business. In 2009 he was conferred the educational and scientific degree

Ph.D. upon successfully presenting his dissertation entitled „The Institutional Crisis of the EU within the Context of the New Realities“.

The same year he was appointed as a Senior Assistant Professor at VFU “Ch. Hrabar”, where he has been carrying out his educational and research work until now. He has elaborated independently lecture courses for Bachelors and Masters in European Integration and EU Institutional System. His involvement in auditorium classes exceeds many times the one envisaged under VFU regulations. He has prepared a teaching-and-methodological handbook, as well as plenty of case studies and selected texts of other foreign and Bulgarian authors on the active methods he uses when teaching to students. His teaching materials have also been published in the electronic library of the university, which makes them widely accessible not only to VFU’s students. He organizes internships for the students in the EU institutions in Brussels, and he personally takes part therein. The students appraise their studies with Dr. Nedyalkov as being full of creative challenges, organized in a real-life environment with up-to-date communication methods.

His involvement as an expert in international projects has contributed to the professional development of his profile as a lecturer. Also his active participation in the elaboration and implementation of a project engaging the European business as an instrumental actor for developing students’ professional aptitude, and a number of other university management projects(which he realized in his capacity of Assistant Rector of VFU) have to be mentioned.

The scientific production of Sen. Assist. Prof. Nedyalkov, Ph.D. is sufficient in size, structure and quality and it meets the requirements for occupying the academic position of Associate Professor. Taking his three monographs alone, one of which published in English, as well as six studies in specialized scientific journals and his papers presented at international conferences indicate, in my opinion, a substantial claim to find one’s own place in the scientific community in a considerably broad and prospective professional field.

His works that I got acquainted with are an evidence for long-lasting and systematic interest in the issues of the European integration and the EU institutional structure. They are marked by multi-level analysis, realistic assessments and clearly stated author's position thereof. Typical for the author is the evolutionary approach and search for adequacy between the already adopted models for integration, the institutionalization mechanisms and the dynamically changing reality.

Thus, for example, in the monograph "EU—Evolution of the Crisis in its Institutions", Dr. Nedyalkov has provided an in-depth analysis of the global environment and the economic and financial crisis, which now make the EU face a number of new challenges.

A definite achievement of the author is the adoption of the interdisciplinary approach as a methodological basis for all of his studies. One is impressed with the easiness with which he adds to the economic and management aspects of the discussed problems the perspectives of sociology, political science, history, and even mathematics and physics. The author demonstrates good knowledge of the scientific achievements in the field he works in, as well as of the on-going theoretical discussions. He has also a profound interest in the changing realities in Europe and the rest of the world. The conclusions and suggestions made by him indicate a statement of one's own opinion, courage to launch new ideas and readiness to openly discuss them.

I would appreciate that Dr. Nedyalkov should keep all these qualities, while also trying to achieve a better balance between the scope of the discussed issues chosen by him and the in-depth focusing on separate problematic areas. It would be interesting, for example, to carry out an independent and profound assessment of the efficiency of the decisions taken by the EU institutions, positioned at the various levels—supranational, governmental, corporate, as well as the level of the civic associations and organizations. There is already such an interest in the candidate as well as an overview presentation of this field, and I hope he will continue to work in this direction. The candidate has shown to date a preference for independent research, nevertheless, there are also elaborations made in a team or in co-authorship. I could recommend to him to use on a broader

scale his potentials in working within networks, particularly when they are of an international scope.

Everything said so far, within the brief position that is expected from me, provides grounds to me to be firmly convinced in supporting Dr. Krasimir Nedyalkov's candidature for the academic position Associate Professor and to vote positively for such a decision.

Prof. Dr Jacques Vilroxx

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