

**ACADEMY OF NATIONAL AND INFORMATION SECURITY**

**PLOVDIV**

**OPINION**

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milorad Rumenov Yordanov

regarding the presentation of scientific papers and the participation of Dr. Alena

Buzova

in a competition for the academic position of

"associate professor" in the field of higher education 9. Security and defense,  
professional field 9.1 "National security"

" Modern models of security. (Security of electronic communication and  
intellectual property)", State Gazette No. 49/17.06.2025

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## **1. Brief information about the candidate in the competition**

The only person participating in the competition for the academic position of "associate professor" is candidate Dr. Alena Buzova, who holds a PhD in Security Management and an additional "Doctor" degree in Public Administration from the University of Security Management in Košice.

The main scientific areas and thematic areas in which the candidate develops her research activity and has publications include topics such as foundations and principles of security theory; cross -border transfer of knowledge (including protection of library collections); security of electronic communication; transfer of knowledge, technologies and intellectual property. The candidate has practical experience concentrated in the following key areas within the academic structure: management of an academic library as director, responsible for the management of the library and the services provided. In addition, she participates in the coordination of postgraduate training by organizing and administering postgraduate qualification programs.

From the submitted documents it is evident that the only candidate in the announced competition satisfies the criteria of the procedure by demonstrating scientific research and administrative experience in accordance with the requirements of the procedure.

## **2. General characteristics of the candidate's works**

Submitted in this competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" Dr. Alena Buzova meet the requirements of the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ADRB) and the Regulations for its implementation.

She has submitted the following scientific papers for review, which are distributed as follows:

- one independent monograph in English – 100 points;
- one published monograph that is not presented as the main habilitation thesis - 100 points
- one independent book based on a defended dissertation – 75
- articles and reports published in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collections: 12 independent and 1 co-authored - total 125 points.

The indicated citations in monographs and collective collections with scientific review are 2 pcs. – 20 points, and the citations in non - refereed scientific journals with scientific review are 7 pcs. – 35 points.

The analysis of scientific production provides grounds to confirm that the candidate has the qualities of a researcher with broad-spectrum knowledge in the field of his research, and the published works have high scientific value.

### **3. Compliance of the quantitative results of the candidate's scientific and teaching activities with the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position of "associate professor".**

The provided scientometric reference and the attached publications certify the scientific activity of the author, as well as the correspondence of her research activity in the field of science in which she has directed her growth. The quantitative assessment covers and even exceeds the minimum required points by groups of indicators according to the Regulations for the implementation of the ZRASRB in area 9. Security and defense, professional direction 9.1. National security.

Doctor Alena Buzova has presented scientific publications on the topic in the competition for the academic position of "associate professor", with the total number of points for all publications and citations being 505 points, with publications totaling 400 points and citations totaling 55 .

The presented data demonstrate the candidate's academic potential and her significant contribution to the scientific field, which makes her fully suitable for the academic position of "associate professor". The presented scientific research is distinguished by high expert value and practical applicability.

### **4. Evaluation of teaching and learning activities**

Teaching activity is related to giving lectures on topics related to the foundations and principles of security theory; cross -border transfer of knowledge (including protection of library collections).

### **5. General characteristics of the candidate's research and applied scientific activities**

The monographic work with which the candidate participated is "The effectiveness of electronic communication in the context of management activities" / 2025 / It notes that managerial communication is a key tool for managing and leading human resources within organizational structures. Its quality and effectiveness directly affect not only team performance, but also the organization's ability to adapt to change, make strategic decisions and build internal cohesion. It notes that communication in the digital environment is no longer just a routine text entry or passive viewing of content.

The author emphasizes the role of ICT (information and communication technologies) training, which is becoming a key factor for professional adaptability and competitiveness. Electronic communication is becoming an integral part of the information and organizational environment of modern institutions - from small enterprises with limited human and material resources to large national or multinational corporations.

All this, together with the analyses in the field of security and intellectual property, undoubtedly proves the candidate's academic potential and his significant contribution to the scientific field. The research work done and the high degree of accessibility of the results are a solid basis for occupying the academic position of "associate professor".

## **6. Synthesized assessment of the main scientific and applied scientific contributions**

The publications and scientific results obtained by the candidate contain a number of scientific and applied scientific contributions of varying degrees of significance for science. I accept and confirm the presence of contributions in the works of the candidate submitted for the competition:

*Scientific contributions* : Conceptualizing electronic communication as a strategic management resource: The work offers a new reading of electronic communication, defining it not simply as a technical tool, but as an important element of management ; Interdisciplinary definition of managerial communication; Modeling the functions of managerial communication in a digital environment and threats in the knowledge economy ; Research on the phenomenon of "virtual teams": The monograph highlights the contribution of electronic communication as a foundation for the functioning of virtual organizational forms, which is critical for the knowledge economy and technological industries.

*Scientific and applied contributions*: Analysis of the correlation between digital literacy and professional competitiveness; a methodology for optimizing internal communication is derived ; Specific guidelines are presented for the use of electronic communication as a strategic tool for human resource management, shaping corporate culture and increasing work efficiency; Identification of critical security factors: the paper emphasizes the need to integrate information security into the organization's daily communication practice, which serves as a protective barrier against cyber threats.

I believe that all the contributions in the peer-reviewed works were obtained with the personal participation of the author. The analysis of the thematic areas that are traced in the candidate's overall scientific production gives an accurate idea of his scientific interests and his authorial participation.

## **7. Critical notes on peer-reviewed works**

Dr. Alena Buzova's scientific works accurately present the results of her research. I recommend that the candidate focus her efforts on publications in refereed and indexed journals in global databases such as Scopus and Web of Science.

## **8. Opinion on the presence or absence of plagiarism**

I have not found any plagiarism in the candidate's work.

## **9. Conclusion**

The competition documents testify that both the requirements of the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ADSRB) and the Regulations for the Implementation of the ADSRB, as well as the relevant Regulations of ANIS for holding the academic position of "associate professor", have been met.

With full conviction, I give my positive assessment and recommend to the other esteemed members of the Scientific Jury to vote FOR awarding the academic position of "Associate Professor" to Dr. Alena Buzova in the field of higher education 9. Security and Defense, professional field 9.1 "National Security" "Modern Models of security. (Security of electronic communication and intellectual property)", State Gazette No. 49/17.06.2025

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Prepared the opinion:

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