

## STATEMENT

of Assoc. Prof. Boriana Venelinova Donkova, PhD,

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on the competition for "**Professor**" in the professional field **4.2. Chemical Sciences (Inorganic Chemistry)** for the needs of Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (**State Gazette No 36 / 03.05.2019**)

In the announced competition for professor in the professional field 4.2. Chemical Sciences (Inorganic Chemistry) only one candidate is participating - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Violeta Georgieva Koleva.

The candidate's educational and scientific profile is fully in line with the objectives of the competition. Violeta Koleva graduated from the Sofia University as a master in chemistry (specialty Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry) in 1984. In the period 1984–1986 she worked at the Applied Research Laboratory for pure and high pure substances at the Faculty of Chemistry, SU, after which she was enrolled as a PhD student in Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Chemistry and Metallurgy, Sofia. Mrs. Koleva defended in 1993 her PhD thesis on "Investigation of the dehydration process and IR spectra of iodate hydrates of some divalent metals". Since 1994 she has been working at the Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry, BAS, where Dr. Koleva was elected for an associate professor in 2007. For the period 2000–2005 she has completed two short-term specializations in Germany and Macedonia, the first of which is in the frame of DAAD.

The research work of the candidate Violeta Koleva is connected with the investigation of the synthesis-structure-properties relationship at different in chemical composition and crystal structure compounds and materials. During her professional career, Assoc. Prof. Koleva has authored and co-authored a total of 77 scientific publications. The latest SCOPUS bulletin report (August 2019) shows the following scientometric information: 72 articles, 607 citations (excluding self-citations) and h-index: 13.

In the present competition the candidate participates with 40 original research articles and 1 review: 39 of them are in journals with impact factor, 1 - in journal with impact rank , 1 - in peer-reviewed journal without IF/SJR and not visible in SCOPUS. These publications were cited

397 times, and over 50% (21) of the publications were published in first quartile (Q1) journals, which shows the relevance of the topics on which the candidate works, as well as the high scientific level. In 16 (39%) of the articles Assoc. Prof. Koleva is the one and only corresponding author and it should be noted that in three of them she is not the first author. By number of co-authors, the publications are categorized as follows: with one co-author (2 articles), with two co-authors (14 articles), with three co-authors (7), with more than three (18 articles).

The teaching activity of Assoc. Prof. Koleva is logically consistent with her research work. Under her co-supervision three PhD theses were defended in the period 2012–2017; two of the PhD students have studied in the University of Skopje, Macedonia.

For the period 2006–2019, Assoc. Prof. Koleva has participated in 19 projects; in 3 of them as a lider.

The submitted author's bulletin for the contribution nature of the scientific works is divided into two parts: the first concerns the 15 publications included in the habilitation work, the second - those outside it. In both parts, the scientific topics and subtopics are clearly defined and logically connected, the results are presented in concise way and are well-founded, and the contributions of the co-authors are indicated where it is necessary. Among the many contributions of the candidate are the purposeful synthesis of new compounds and materials, new phases, identification of the crystal structure.

The presented materials show that Assoc. Prof. Koleva is a well-established scientist in the field of preparative chemistry and materials science, has hers own style and scientific field, which have found a significant impact in the international specialized literature.

In conclusion, the achievements of the candidate - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Violeta Georgieva Koleva exceed the minimal national requirements for scientific and teaching activity in the field of higher education 4.2. Chemical sciences, as well as the requirements for occupation of the respective academic position at IGIC-BAS. That is why I highly recommend Assoc. Prof. Violeta Georgieva Koleva to be elected for the academic position "Professor" at the Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

30.08.2019

/Assoc. Prof. Boriانا Donkova, PhD/