

STATEMENT

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ABOUT

documents and scientific papers presented in a competition for the academic position

“Associate Professor”

Field of higher education: 5. Technical sciences;

Professional field: 5.2 Electrical engineering, electronics and automation;

published in the State Gazette No 10/27.01.2026 for the needs of the department

„Distributed information and communication systems“

in the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies – BAS

with the only candidate in the competition: Chief Assist. Yordanka Boneva, Ph.D.

By order No 74/27.03.2026 of the Director of the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (IICT-BAS), I am included in the Scientific Jury of the competition for the academic position “Associate Professor” published in the State Gazette No 10/27.01.2026. Materials for the competition are submitted by the only candidate Yordanka Boneva, Ph.D., Chief assist. prof. at IICT-BAS.

General characteristics of the presented materials.

The CV submitted as part of the competition documents shows that Yordanka Boneva earned her doctoral degree at the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies – BAS between 2007 and 2020. The requirements for all indicator groups, as per the attached report, show that they are met; in fact, for some parameters, they exceed the minimum requirements of IICT-BAS and the Act of the Development of the Academic Personnel of the Republic of Bulgaria, and the Rules of the Academic Personnel of the Republic of Bulgaria. The materials have been prepared in accordance with the rules, as well as the Regulations on the Specific Conditions for the Acquisition of Academic Degrees and for Holding Academic Positions at IICT-BAS.

Evaluation of the scientific work.

The candidate is participating in the competition with a list of 11 scientific publications in journals that are peer-reviewed and indexed in internationally renowned scientific databases, which meet the requirements of criterion B4, published between 2021 and 2024. Additionally, the candidate is participating with 7 peer-reviewed and indexed publications in global databases, published between 2016 and 2024. The candidate is participating with 9 publications in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review or in edited collective volumes.

The scientific works submitted by the candidate do not duplicate the publications required for the doctoral degree.

Overall, the submitted works contain scientific and applied scientific results related to the application of information and communication technologies in education, innovative information and communication approaches in STEM education, modern management methods in agricultural facilities, and urban traffic management with an emphasis on improving intersection throughput and reducing traffic jams at traffic lights.

The presented results demonstrate the candidate's in-depth knowledge, experience, and competence in the field of the competition.

Evaluation of the citations.

In the presented list of citations, most citations of the candidate's works are in the works of authors in publications that are indexed and referenced in the scientific information database Scopus, citations in foreign publications are also noticeable.

In the submitted information for fulfillment of the minimum requirements of IICT for "Associate Professor" the candidate has indicated the data shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Data, provided by the candidate.

Group ind.	Indicators	Points required	Candidate Points
A	1. Dissertation thesis for educational and scientific degree "Ph.D. "	50	50
B	Indicator 3 or 4	Min. 100	350
G	Sum of indicators 5 to 11	Min. 220	224,99
D	Sum of indicators 12 to 15	Min. 60	168
E	Sum of indicators from 16 to the end	Min. 20	50
Total:		450	842.99

Scientific and scientific-applied contributions.

I acknowledge and positively evaluate the candidate's scientific and applied scientific contributions. These contributions address a current area of urban environment development, focusing on the management and optimization of urban traffic. Another relevant focus is the implementation of "Smart City" initiatives and the development of new technologies to ensure urban mobility. Synthesized models for resource management in economic entities have been proposed. In the field of education, a synthesized methodology for developing educational game software has been proposed. A prototype has been created in the form of a game that can be personalized according to students' knowledge.

General characteristics of the candidate's activity.

The candidate in this competition, Yordanka Boneva, Ph.D. holds a master's degree from the University of Library Science and Information Technologies in Sofia. She has over 15 years of total work experience at the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies (IICT), including 4

years as a chief assistant. During this period, she served as a doctoral student, programmer, and chief assistant. The publications submitted for the competition demonstrate the candidate's active publishing record and contain original scientific and applied scientific results in the field of the competition.

She has participated as a team member in 5 national research projects, including 4 funded by the National Science Fund (NSF) and one project funded by the National Scientific Program (NSP).

Critical notes and recommendations.

I have no critical remarks with which to challenge the scientific-applied contributions of the candidate. There are no separate protocols provided for the contributions in the evaluated papers, for this reason I consider the authors to have equal participation.

Conclusion

The materials of the competition and the presented results of the candidate satisfy all the requirements under the Act of the Development of the Academic Personnel of the Republic of Bulgaria, and the Rules of the Academic Personnel of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for the conditions and the procedure for acquiring scientific degrees and for the occupation of academic position in the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the Rules for the specific conditions for the acquisition of the academic degrees and the occupation of academic positions in the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies. My assessment of the overall activity of the candidate is **positive**.

I strongly recommend the esteemed Scientific Jury to vote a proposal to the Scientific Council of IICT-BAS for the election of Yordanka Boneva Ph.D. to the academic position of "Associate Professor" in Professional: 5.2 Electrical engineering, electronics and automation, for the needs of Department "Distributed Information and Management Systems" at the IICT-BAS.

Date:

04.05.2026

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