

STATEMENT

by Prof. dr. Teodora Svetoslavova Handjieva-Darlenska, DMSc

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Concerning the procedure for competition for the academic post of Associate Professor in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sport, professional field 7.1 Medical Sciences, announced in Durjaven vestnik No 28 of 02.04.2024 for the needs of Department of Biotechnology, Laboratory of Metabolomics, IMCB – BAS.

Based on Order No. I-57/23.04.2024 of the Director of Institute of Microbiology "Stefan Angelov" - BAS, I have been elected as a member of the scientific jury for the evaluation of applications for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education and I have to submit an opinion in accordance with the current regulatory documents.

Dr. Liliya Vladimirova Mihaylova is the only candidate and the documents submitted by the candidate meet the requirements and its implementing regulations.

It is clear from the enclosed CV that Dr. Liliya Vladimirova Mihaylova graduated from the Medical University of Plovdiv, Faculty of Pharmacy, Plovdiv in 2013. In 2014 she did a specialization in the international project "Development of FXIIa inhibitors a promising target to treat and prevent thrombotic diseases" under the supervision of Prof. Lionel Pochet at the University of Namur, Namur (Belgium). In 2016, she became a specialist in Drug Product Analysis at the Medical University of Plovdiv, Faculty of Pharmacy, Plovdiv under the supervision of prof. Dr. Danka Obreshkova. In 2017 she became a PhD in Pharmacology (including Pharmacokinetics and Chemotherapy) at Medical University of Plovdiv, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology, Plovdiv (Bulgaria) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Damyanka Getova-Spasova. In 2016 she became Assistant Professor at the Medical University of Plovdiv, Faculty of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmacology and Drug Toxicology, Plovdiv. In 2018 she was a postdoctoral researcher at the Center for Plant Systems Biology and Biotechnology, Plovdiv. Since 2021 she is a Senior Assistant Professor at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Microbiology "Stefan Angelov", Department of Biotechnology, Laboratory of Metabolomics, Plovdiv. From 2021-2023 she was on maternity leave. From 2023 she is the coordinator of the PlantaSYST project at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Microbiology "Stefan Angelov" Department of Biotechnology, Metabolomics Laboratory, Plovdiv.

The scientific topic which develops Dr. Liliya Mihaylova is in the field of molecular pharmacology, pharmaceutical biotechnology and biological activity of natural products.

Her interests are focused on socially significant diseases and modern approaches to prevention and pharmacotherapy. Her current research is on influencing the molecular mechanisms of obesity, longevity and photoaging of the skin (UV-induced).

The results of the scientific input of Dr. Liliya Mihaylova are summarized in 44 scientific publications. 435 citations (without self-citations until 21.05.2024 noted in Scopus); Hirsch index: 12 (Scopus); Total impact factor: 130.96 (Scopus). Dr. Mihaylova has 37 participations in international scientific forums and 8 participations in national and international projects. She has led 1 national project and coordinated the scientific team from IMICB on the PlantaSYST project.

In 2020 her work was awarded by the Bulgarian Phytochemical Association. In 2023 Dr. Liliya Mihaylova is among the three nominees for the Pythagoras Award for the best young scientist in the field of Life Sciences and Medicine. At the beginning of 2024, she received the Annual Award for Scientific Excellence of the IMCB, which honours the work of the Metabolomics Laboratory team.

Liliya Mihaylova is a member of 2 scientific and professional organizations (Bulgarian Phytochemical Association and Bulgarian Scientific Society of Pharmacy).

After my careful reading of the submitted documentation about the candidate's activities and development, I find the candidacy of Dr. Liliya Mihaylova suitable. In summary, I give a positive opinion and vote "for" the award of the academic position of Associate Professor to Dr. Liliya Vladimirova Mihaylova.

30th of July 2024

Prof. d-r T. Handjieva-Darlenska, DMSc

Sofia