

STATEMENT

by

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Member of the Scientific Jury approved by order of the Director of The Stephan Angeloff Institute of Microbiology (№ I-142 or 1.10.2025) concerning the procedure for awarding the academic position “Associate Professor” in the field of higher education 4. “Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics”, professional direction 4.3. “Biological Sciences”, scientific specialty “Microbiology” in Stephan Angeloff Institute of Microbiology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS). The announcement for the competition was published in the State Gazette No. 66/ 12.08.2025.

Assist. Prof. Lyudmila Dimitrova from the (Stephan Angeloff Institute of Microbiology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) is the only applicant in the competition.

Brief overview of the candidate

The Assist. Prof. Lyudmila Dimitrova defended dissertation entitled “Biological activity of extracts and compounds isolated from *Geum urbanum* L.” in the scientific specialty “Microbiology” and acquired a PhD degree in 2019. Since 2016 she has been appointed as an Assistant Professor, and since 2022 as a Chief Assistant Professor in the Department of Infectious Microbiology at the Institute of Microbiology "Stefan Angeloff" - BAS. She received the following awards:

- Award for the best poster of a young scientist at 3 conferences - Fourth National Conference with International Participation and Youth Scientific Session "Ecological Engineering and Environment Protection" (3-6.06.2015, Burgas, Bulgaria), Fifth National Congress of Virology with International Participation/Days of Virology in Bulgaria (02-04.10.2019, Sofia) and 11th Balkan Congress of Microbiology Microbiologia Balkanica 2019 (Tirana, Albania, 21-23.11.2019);

- Award for the best work of a young microbiologist of the Foundation "Acad. Prof. Dr. Stefan Angeloff" in 2017, 2019, 2020 and 2022.

- Diploma for a young scientist for high scientific achievements in the field of technologies for a sustainable environment - water, waste and energy for a circular economy, within the framework of the “Clean & Circle” competence center, Sofia, July 6, 2023.

- Certificate for a successfully completed project, funded by the "Scientific Research Fund", contract KP-06-N36/17 from 2019 with supervisor Prof. Dr. Milka Mileva, Sofia, April 23, 2025.

Dr. Lyudmila Dimitrova speaks English, German and Russian.

Assessment of scientific indicators

The assessment of indicators includes:

- **Indicators “A” and “B”** – The applicant defended thesis for the acquisition of PhD degree in 2019 (50 points) and presents a habilitation thesis (7 scientific publications resulting in 140 points).

- **Group indicator “F”** – The candidate presents 13 scientific publications impact factor that resulted in 279 points. In 6 of the articles, the candidate is the first author, which fulfills the requirement for 5 articles according to the Regulations for the acquisition of a scientific degrees and holding academic positions at the Institute of Microbiology. The total impact factor is 79.468, which fulfills the requirement for IF=20. The candidate has a h-index 10, which fulfills the requirement of the Regulations of the Institute of Microbiology.

The scientific activity of the candidate is also represented through her participation in 15 scientific forums. It is important to note that at 7 of the conferences she participated with oral presentations.

- **Group indicator “D”** – The candidate presents 491 citations of publications and preparation of 42 reviews of scientific publications in foreign journals. The points that are achieved for this parameter are 1066.

- **Group indicator “E”** - The candidate participated in 26 scientific projects which fulfills the requirement for 3 projects. The candidate was the leader of 3 of the projects. The total number of points in this group amounts to 324 points.

The total number of points of the candidate in the competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the professional field 4.3. "Biological Sciences", meets and exceeds the minimum national requirements according to the Law on Academic Staff Development in the Republic of Bulgaria (LASDRB), the Regulations for the implementation of LASDRB and the Regulations of the Institute of Microbiology.

The scientific contributions of the works of Dr. Lyudmila Dimitrova can be distinguished in the following areas:

- Study of antibacterial activity of ethyl acetate extracts of *Geum urbanum* L. – it was found that the ethyl acetate extracts from roots and aerial parts of the plant suppress the formation of a biofilm of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

- Study of antineoplastic and antiviral activity of extracts of *Geum urbanum* L., obtained with different solvents – it was found that the ethyl acetate extract has antineoplastic activity against bladder carcinoma and activity against Human adenovirus (HAdV-5) and Coxsackie B (CVB1) viruses.

- Study of acute and subacute toxicity of ethyl acetate extract from aerial parts of *Geum urbanum* L. – it was found that the studied extract is a suitable candidate for use as a food supplement in various infectious diseases.

Conclusion

On the basis of the documents presented for the competition, I do believe that the candidate completely meets the requirements for occupying the academic position of “Associate Professor” according to the LASDRB, the Regulations for the implementation of the LASDRB and the Regulations of the Institute of Microbiology. I state my positive assessment for awarding the academic position “Associate Professor” to Assist. Professor Lyudmila Dimitrova in the professional direction 4.3 “Biological Sciences” for the needs of the Laboratory of Bacterial Virulence, Resistance and New Antimicrobial Agents, Department of Infectious Microbiology, Institute of Microbiology - BAS.

Sofia

26.11.2025

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