

EXPERT OPINION

of

Prof. Dr. Eng. Margarita Pencheva Mondeshka - Nedyalkova,
UACEG (University of Architecture, Civil Engineering, and Geodesy) - Sofia

**Professor in the scientific specialty "Land Development (incl.
cadastre and real estate valuation)", UACEG (diploma reg. № 123 /
23.02.2016)**

appointed for a member of the Scientific Panel by order №
625/14.10.2021 issued by the Rector of VSU "Lyuben Karavelov"

on materials submitted for partaking in a state contest for acquiring an academic
position "**Professor**" in professional field **5.7. Architecture, Construction, and
Geodesy**, in the scientific specialty "**Territorial and Landscape planning, and
Urban Planning**"

In the competition for professorship announced in the State Gazette, issue no.60/
20.07.2021, and posted on the website of VSU "Lyuben Karavelov" to meet the needs
of the **Department of Urban Planning, Theory and History of Architecture** at the
Faculty of Architecture, the only candidate who has applied for the very contest is
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arch. Dimitar Stefanov Vlasarev of VSU "Lyuben Karavelov",
Department of Urban Planning, Theory and History of Architecture.

1. Short biography

In 1983, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arch. Dimitar St. Vlasarev completes an academic program
in Architecture at the Higher Institute of Architecture and Civil Engineering, Sofia (now
known as UACEG), obtaining a master's degree as an architect in the **Architecture of
Buildings, Structures, Facilities, and details** specialty. He is a holder of a certificate
for a "Full Design Qualification", and he is also a member of the Chamber of Architects
in Bulgaria (CAB). After having graduated, he embraced the challenges ahead,
whereupon he started obtaining extensive professional experience following his
professional career path, firstly, as an architect, then appointed a Head of Department
at KIPP Agropromproekt, later on, employed at "Industrial Construction -
Universalstroy" State Fund in Sofia, to continue working as a freelance architect, and
to be eventually invited to hold the position as a Chief Architect of the Municipalities of
Kostinbrod and Krumovgrad. During the 2012-2014 period he was a full-time doctoral
student at Varna Free University "Chernorizets Hrabar", where he successfully
defended his dissertation and became D. Arch. in "Territorial and Landscape Planning,
and Urban planning" (reg.#02.17.09). From 2008 till now, he has been a lecturer at the
Faculty of Architecture at VSU "Lyuben Karavelov", where he would go on to
continuously build on his teaching, scientific and research work, and architectural
achievements, proof of which are not only the titles received so far, but also all the
realized projects by him, the awards awarded, but namely the **State Award** for a Mill
Plant project in Sofia, and not the least, he was decorated the **Jubilee Silver Badge**
of the Chamber of Architects in Bulgaria. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arch. D. Vlasarev is also a
member of the Union of Architects in Bulgaria.

2. Overall description of the materials presented

The candidate, **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arch. Dimitar Stefanov Vlasarev** participates in the competition with the following:

- Teaching aids (guidebooks) – 4 (four) copies;
- Text Books – 3 (three) copies;
- Monographs – 2 (two) copies;
- Publications – 34 issues (in collective volumes with scientific peer-review and editing).
- Fully realized author's architectural projects (built ones) – 3 projects.

The materials submitted for the contest meet the requirements of DASRBA and the Regulations on the Implementation of DASRBA. The overall assessment reference provided by the candidate, supplementing the implementation of the scientometric indicators by Dr. arch. Dimitar St. Vlasarev in connection with his registration as an associate professor was prepared correctly. It duly abides by and observes the minimum required points concerning all groups of indicators, as in three of the groups the minimum requirements are exceedingly high, as in A group of indicators - by 389 points, in (Д/бг) E group of indicators - by 20 points, and (Е/г) F group of indicators - by 110 points.

3. Impact factor of the candidate's scientific publications in related literature (well-known citations)

According to the documentation submitted for the contest, the research results and scientific contributions of the applicant, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arch. Dimitar St. Vlasarev, have been cited **3 times** in scientific journals - referenced and indexed in the world database, as they have also been cited **30 times** in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review, which is a confirmation of their relevance, feasibility, and great significance.

4. Overall valuation of the candidate's activity

4.1. Teaching and pedagogical activity

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arch. Dimitar St. Vlasarev commenced his teaching career at UACEG as a part-time lecturer (1984-1985). As an associate professor at the Department of Urban Planning, Theory and History of Architecture, he would hold the following lecture courses:

- Urban Planning – Theory and Practice of Urban Planning-fundamentals;
- Architectural Design – Designing a small residential group (a cluster) on private property;
- Architectural Design – Design of an Industrial Building;
- Urban Planning – Current problems of the modern Urban Planning;
- Architectural Design - Urban Planning Solution for the renovation of the existing settlement structure or the central area of a medium-sized city;
- Territorial Planning, Settlements Development, and Urban Planning (Part I, Part II)
- Industrial and Agricultural Buildings
- Industrial Territories

- Landscape Architecture and Planting Design
- Industrial Buildings (IB) II - Fundamentals of Theory and Practice of IB
- Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture "Park";
- Agricultural buildings

His serious workload as a teacher is not only true confirmation of the wide scope of his academic teachings but also speaks of his moral commitment to education being one of the most substantial pillars of modern development and progress. Led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arch. D. Vlasarev, all the research projects involving students attest to his individual approach to invite and attract students to embark on such activities, thus forming a higher level in university education.

4.2. Research work and applied-science activity

The research work and the applied-science activity of the candidate are in the field of industrial and agrarian architecture and addressing the problematic aspects of the spatial planning of the territories related to them. Of particular interest are the latter ones, linked to and reflecting on the public, the economic and social conditions in Bulgaria after the democratic changes in the country, and the problems ensuant. Of all these matters, a great deal falls on the issues of crucial importance when it comes to the planning of the agricultural territories, as these are among the main units and structures of exploration and scientific research of arch. D. Vlasarev. Additional to the scientific interests of the candidate are also those related to the protection of the environment within the framework of the architectural-urban planning and spatial planning, as this should be duly noted. What may have to be mentioned, as a specific emphasis in his scientific work, is the research process examining the anthropogenic pressure generated by the functioning of industrial and agricultural sites (food and processing industry, livestock complexes, etc.), both in structure-developmental and planning aspect.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arch. D. Vlasarev has personally led and successfully finalized 3 research projects.

The overall science and research activity of the candidate is rather an innovative one, as it is characterized by complexity, topicality, it may be, as well, broadly applied in the development of planning documents, in the development of settlement systems and settlements. It has a real practical value.

He has participated in many international and national scientific conferences.

4.3. Contributions (scientific, applied science, and applied developments)

Scientific contributions

The processes in the recent history of Bulgaria including land reform, agriculture restructuring, and spatial planning, with a focus on the various problems cropping up, and the need for appendices and amendments in the current regulations have been also examined.

A new concept has been developed within the territorial structure framework, leaning on the territorial-production clusters of the small and medium enterprises, appearing as a new additional element to the urban and spatial planning solutions and reflecting

the local and timeline features of regional development, structural legislation and the harmonization of the socio-economic development of Bulgaria with the European principles, norms, and goals.

A model of clustering of agro-economic and industrial structures for the purpose of spatial planning has been proposed while presenting the viable option to reflect on the ecological and sanitary-hygienic requirements in the planning process.

A methodical approach has been developed for the purposes of research and design of the public spaces of the central urban parts of medium and small towns via implementing a structural theoretical model.

Applied-science contributions

The above-mentioned contributions of a theoretical nature could, most certainly, find reasonable implementing and adequate application when carrying out certain activities under the process of spatial-development planning, as well as in any further adjustments or additional amendments made in the regulations.

Criteria and measures for sustainable development of the green system of small production areas, of micro-regions in agricultural and impacted or jeopardized areas have been developed that imply functional and environmental efficiency of their implementation, e.g., energy efficiency, microclimate regulation, sustainable waste management.

5. Appraisal of the candidate's contribution

The research papers and the scientific works presented reflect on the scientific researches and the lengthy process of good reasoning that ends up in putting down a useful summary upon drawing the general conclusions, as all that **unfolds throughout the main monographic work**. Another good aspect is that outcomes of these scientific explorations have become available to the entire scientific readership, both locally and abroad. All this has given me a good reason to accept and acknowledge the fact that the whole volume of work of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arch. D. Vlasarev is the personal work of the author.

6. Critical notes

The monographs presented for the contest create an impression of abundance of figures and visual aids provided, which in fact may contribute a lot to illustrating concepts, also to help the reader comprehend the various author's ideas, as well as to facilitate the in-depth analysis of the research alongside the evidentiary part. Following the worldwide requirements for publishing scientific results, the figures must be cited in the text, something that was not duly done by the author for the greater share of those (referring to the works afore-mentioned).

There are certain variations noticed, and also lack of information in the formatting and structuring of the literature sources referred to (ISBN, ISSN, or certain pages) according to the nowadays worldwide requirements in the field of scientific publications, and as regards the way the citations have been introduced or embedded.

7. Personal impressions

I have always known Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arch. D. Vlasarev as a strict and responsible one in his relations with colleagues and when interacting with students. He stands out as an in-depth and analytical scientist.

8. Conclusion

Given all the above reviewed, I confidently propose **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arch. Dimitar Stefanov Vlasarev to be approved of and elected a "professor" in professional field 5.7 Architecture, Civil Engineering, and Geodesy - scientific specialty "Territorial and Landscape Planning and Urban Planning"**.

Member of the Scientific Panel:



(Prof. Dr. Eng. Margarita Pencheva Mondeshka – Nedyalkova)

Sofia,

10.11.2021