

**STATEMENT**

by

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zhenya Ruseva Petrova, MD****Department: General Medicine****Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna**

**Subject: procedure for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional field 7.1 Medicine, specialty "General Medicine" for the needs of the Department of Urology and General Medicine, Medical University - Plovdiv, according to a competition announced in the State Gazette No. 15/ 21.02./2025.**

The statement was prepared in accordance with the Law on the Development of the Academic Community in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation, the Regulations for Academic Development at the Medical University of Plovdiv, Order No. R-2186/ 29.04.2025 of the Vice Rector of MU-Plovdiv for the appointment of a Scientific Jury and after a meeting of the latter - Protocol 1/ 30.04.2025. Documents for participation in the competition were submitted by Dr. Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD and Dr. Nevena Ivanova, MD. The announcement in the State Gazette stated an additional requirement for candidates *"...and to have worked in the specialty "General Medicine" for at least 5 years in a primary care outpatient clinic."* According to Art. 108, item 33 of the Academic Development Regulations of the Medical University of Plovdiv, candidates shall attach other documents certifying the fulfillment of the additional requirements specified in the competition announcement (for each specific case).

Examined in detail, Nevena Ivanova, MD, PhD does not meet the additional requirements, namely, she does not have the required period of 5 years in which she has carried out activities in the specialty "General Medicine" in a primary care outpatient clinic and at her first meeting of the Scientific Jury, she was not admitted to assessment.

Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD was admitted by the Scientific Jury because she met all the requirements, and the opinion examined the evidentiary material presented by her.

**1. Candidate's Career Profile**

Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD, graduated from the Medical University of Plovdiv in 1992 with a Master's degree in Medicine.

She obtained a specialty in: Internal Medicine in 1997, General Medicine in 2000. In 1995 she obtained a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy, and in 2002 she obtained a Master's degree in Macroeconomics from the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv. In 2002 she obtained the Educational and Scientific Degree "Doctor" in the scientific specialty of General Medicine, from the Medical University - Plovdiv.

Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD began her career in 1993 as a resident physician at the Military Hospital. From 1998 to 2002, she was an assistant at the Department of General Medicine, and since 2002, she has been a Chief Assistant at the Department of General Medicine at the Medical University of Plovdiv. Since 2000, she has been a GP. Since 2008, she has been the manager of Medical center BROD EOOD, and since 2020, she has been the manager of Accredited GP Dr. Elenski EOOD.

Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD is a member of of Bulgarian General Practitioners' Society for Research and Education, European General Practice Research Network, World Organization of Family Doctors, Bulgarian Balint Society, Union of Scientists in Bulgaria. Foreva is fluent in English (B2), Russian (A2) and French (A1) and is computer literate.

Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD has participated in 9 national and 6 international scientific projects, for which she has presented detailed reports and the relevant certificates.

Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD has been named Family Physician of the Year in 2022 by the Bulgarian Medical Association Plovdiv.

## **2. General description of the materials submitted for the competition.**

The required references, materials and evidence for participation in the competition are presented, and are correctly arranged.

## **3. Evaluation of the candidate's scientific works for overall academic development**

The competition materials submitted by Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD are for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the specialty "General Medicine" in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and Sports, professional field 7.1 Medicine meets the requirements of the the Law on the Development of the Academic Community in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations for the development of the academic community at MU-Plovdiv.

In the presented documents to the attention of the Scientific Jury, Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD is the author of 106 publications that are not related to the dissertation work. The distribution of the materials in a scientometric aspect is as follows:

1. Dissertation
2. Monograph and co-authored 5 chapters in collective monographs
3. Full-text articles, including:
  - Publications in full-text scientific journals, published in referred and indexed world databases of scientific information (Scopus and/or Web of Science) - **56 publications**
  - **11** of the articles published in referred and indexed global databases of scientific information (Scopus and/or Web of Science) were published in journals with **Impact Factor** indexed in Clarivate Analytics.
  - Publications; in full-text scientific journals, published in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes – **50 publications.**

Dr. Foreva is a co-author of 6 textbooks and handbooks in General Medicine – in Bulgarian and in English.

The materials presented in the reference by Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD cover a wide range of scientific issues, focused on current and significant problems in the field of general medicine and medical practice, and are entirely within the specialty of the announced competition. A significant part of the scientific studies are interdisciplinary, covering a wide range of thematic problematic areas. The scientific contributions from the presented research

activity are original, confirmatory and applicable in practice, with a large part of the results being published in numerous prestigious journals, indexed in world-renowned databases (Scopus and Web of Science), including IF - indexed in Clarivate Analytics.

#### **4. Evaluation of monographic work or articles equivalent to monographic work**

Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD has presented a monographic work on the topic "Palliative Care in Primary Care".

The monograph is dedicated to the ever-growing need for palliative care, due to the increase in life expectancy. This is proving to be a challenge for healthcare systems on a global scale. Solutions related to palliative care require a differentiated, specific approach. Dr. Foreva examines the state of palliative care in our country and the possibilities for their optimization.

Dr. Foreva is a co-author of several collective monographs.

#### **5. Reflection (citation) of the candidates' publications in the national literature**

A reference presented information provided by Dr. Foreva from international scientific databases Scopus, Web of Science, Google Scholar. Presented in Scopus/Web of Sc – 138 citations, in Bulgarian publications – 18 citations and in collective monographs – 12 citations. Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD has presented a certificate for h – index = 5 from both databases – Scopus and Web of Science.

#### **6. Comprehensive, qualitative assessment of the educational, methodological and teaching activities, incl. administrative activities.**

From the submitted documents it is evident that Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD has 20 years of teaching experience at the Medical University of Plovdiv. Dr. Foreva participated in the education of medical students from 1998 to 2016 (assistant – 1998-2002, senior assistant – 2002-2016). The primary care outpatient clinic managed by Dr. Foreva, since 2023, has been a training center for general medicine medical students. She is a mentor of postgraduate students in General Medicine. She is the scientific supervisor of 1 doctoral student who defended the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" and of 1 full-time doctoral student in the process of training.

The Academic Development Regulations of the Medical University of Plovdiv (Art. 108, item 6) require teaching experience specifically within the last three years. The information presented by Dr. Foreva does not meet this requirement; therefore, the points in category 'Ж' will not be taken into account.

#### **7. Critical notes and recommendations**

The documentation provided for the competition is complete, correct, organized and meets the requirements of the procedure, indicating awareness and respect of Gergana Hristeva Foreva, MD, PhD towards the Academic community and the members of the Scientific Jury.

#### **8. Conclusion:**

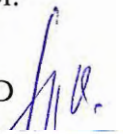
Dr. Gergana Hristeva Foreva, PhD is a well-known specialist in the field of general medicine. The presented scientific publications fully meets and exceeds the minimum national requirements according to the Law on the Development of Academic Community in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation, as well as the specific requirements of the Medical University - Plovdiv, set out in its Regulations for Academic Development for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of

higher education 7. Healthcare and Sports, Professional Field 7.1 Medicine in the scientific specialty "General Medicine".

I vote "positive" for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor" by Dr. Gergana Hristeva Foreva, PhD.

16.06.2025

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zhenya Ruseva Petrova, PhD



Заличено на основание  
Чл.5 §1, б."В" Регламент (ЕС)2016/679

