

## OPINION

**by Col. (ret.), Prof. Eng. Stoyko Dimitrov Stoykov , Ph.D., DSc.  
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<https://cris.nacid.bg/public/scientist-preview/13856>

**Register of Academic Staff and Dissertations**

<https://ras.nacid.bg/dissertation-preview/13856>

**Scopus** Author ID: 57205573075;

**Web of Science** Researcher ID: N-6268-2016 ;

**ORCID** : 0000-0002-4885-713X

**Higher Education Field:** 3. Social, Economic and Legal Science;

Research area: 3.7. Administration and Management

Scientific specialization: 05.02.24. "Organization and Management Outside the Sphere of Material Production (Security and Defense)".

**Higher Education Field:** 9. Security and Defense;

Research area: 9.1. National Security;

Research area: 9.2. Military Science.

Scientific specializations:

- 05.02.24. "Organization and Management Outside the Sphere of Material Production (Management of Security and Defense) ";
- 05.12.01. " Organization and Management of Armed Forces ";
- 05.12.02 "Military-Political Problems of Security ";
- 05.12.03 "Military Applied Aspects of Civil Protection".

for the scientific works presented in the competition for the academic position of Associate Professor in 9.1. National Security (Economic and Financial Security) professional field of the Higher School of Security and Economics, announced in the State Gazette /issue 89/08.11.2022/

The opinion was prepared on the basis of Order No. 74/08.02.2023. of the Rector of the Higher School of Security and Economics.

Only candidate in the competition is Martin Mašlan, PhD - Head of Economics and Safety of Transport Department at the Higher School of Safety Management in Košice.

Scopus Scopus Author ID: - 56316488300

Web of Science ResearcherID : HMD - 3705-2023

ORCID: 0000-0003-1913-655X

In his work as Head of Department, Martin Mašlan, PhD implements, administers and manages the department and carries out the teaching of subjects with an economic and logistical focus.

During the period 1995-1998 Martin Mašlan, PhD was engaged in providing engineering activities necessary for primary metallurgical production. During the period 1998-2001 his activity is aimed at creating and managing business-technical and marketing centers in selected European countries. During the period 2001-2003 his activity is focused on fire-fighting equipment, fire-fighting vehicles and their equipment. During the period - 2003-2012 Martin Mašlan, PhD is Manager of marketing and sales of metallurgical products. During the period 2012-2018 Martin Mašlan, PhD is a College Lecturer with main activities and responsibilities: teaching subjects with an economic and logistical focus.

The candidate in the competition defended his doctoral dissertation in 2019: State Security and Defense, in National and International Security field of study, and Dissertation Topic: "Use of Security Risk Analysis Methods in the Protection of Transportation of People and Materials". Certificate of recognition No./date : 58 / 01.12.2022 Professional direction: 9.1. National Security.

The relevance of the issues developed by Martin Mašlan, PhD in the works proposed for review for participation in the competition, in a scientific and applied scientific sense, it stems from the need to expand systematic scientific knowledge about the specifics of the problem of the economic security of economic entities, as a partial part of their overall security. Currently, the external environment is characterized by instability and creates an increasing number of risks that can adversely affect the results of the activity, which necessitates paying more attention to risk management because a positive economic result does not automatically mean sufficient financial resources.

Martin Mašlan, PhD, expands the scope of the category apparatus with which the scientific theory through a transdisciplinary approach to the various dimensions - financial, social, economic, technical, organizational, legal and others relates to the science of security. Economic security is affected by a number of internal factors, which can be an information system providing quality information in real time, reliability of suppliers of raw materials, condition of warehouses and stocks, organization and productivity of labor, total costs, quality and reliability of production, distribution channels, ability of

customers to pay for purchased products. Martin Maslan, PhD reveals to us that the neglect of any part of the overall security will ultimately be expressed in reducing the economic security of the enterprise and may have an adverse impact on its competitiveness, profitability or financial flows.

### **1. General description of the materials submitted for review under the competition (monographs, textbooks, certificates and patents, articles and reports).**

Martin Mašlan is the author of more than 15 scientific publications in specialized publications. 13 are proposed for review.

The listed titles are distributed as follows:

- Monographs - 2 pcs.;
- Pedagogical textbooks for secondary schools - 2 pcs.;
- Scientific articles in foreign scientific journals - 9 items;

I accept for review all materials presented by the candidate, which, in my opinion, are in the subject of the competition and contain contributing points in the scientific field reviewed by me.

The number of publications is representative, and I estimate it as sufficient for participation in a competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" at the Higher School of Security and Economics - Plovdiv.

### **2. General characteristics of the candidate's scientific, applied scientific and pedagogical activities.**

Dr. Martin Mašlan's peer-reviewed papers are in the field and the issues of the specialty of the competition for "Associate Professor" in 9. Security and defense field of higher education, 9.1 National security (Economic and financial security) professional direction.

The publications are in specialized scientific publications. The following data are indicative of their visibility and significance in the scientific field of the competition:

- **Scopus** – 56316488300 - 2 Documents by author, 6 Citations by 6 documents, 1 h-index;

- **Web of Science** – Researcher ID: HMD-3705-2023 – Publications – 2; Total times cited – 2 ; Citations by 3 documents ; H-index – 1;

- **About RCID** - <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1913-655X> – 2 Publications.

- **Research Gate** - Martin Mašlan, Security Management College in Kosice - Vysoka school bezpesnostneho manaserstva v Kosiciach , Slovakia – 5 Publications, 8 - Citations, Research Interest Score - 9.8, Citations – 8, h-index – 2;

- **Google Scholar** - Martin Mašlan, Professor of Economy, University of Security Management, Confirmed email address: vsbm.sk, 5 - Publications;

The candidate's style is academic, thorough, understandable and approachable.

The expert capacity of the candidate is presented in the CV, from which it is evident that the expertise of Martin Mašlan, PhD in the field of the competitive procedure significantly exceeds the academic requirements in areas and indicators:

- Master of Science (MSc.) - IPE Management School - Paris, France and University of Safety Management in Kosice, Slovakia, Education level in national or international classification: EQF level 7;

- IPE Management School - Paris, France and University of Safety Management in Kosice, Slovakia, Education level in national or international classification: EQF level 7 Main subjects /.

### **3. Fulfillment of the requirements for occupying the academic position**

The scientific production provided by the candidate in the competition fully meets the requirements of the evaluation system of the indicators for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor" by activities and indicators in a professional direction - 9.1. "National Security".

Total points indicator "A" -50;

Total points indicator "B" - 100;

Total points indicator "D" - 190.8;

Total points indicator "D" - 15.

With required 400 points, the candidate has 455.8 points.

According to the presented under Art. 26. (1) from the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria - "Reference for Original Scientific Contributions", according to the requirements of Article 53.5 of the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, no plagiarism in scientific works has been proven according to the law. I am not aware of and have not received a report of plagiarism or misrepresentation of scientific information.

### **4. Nature of scientific contributions**

The main contributions of the candidate are of a scientific, scientifically applied and applied nature and can be summarized with the achieved scientific results in the following areas:

- New knowledge and skills have been generated in the security sector through the presented relatively complete scientific theoretical concept of the role of logistics in ensuring the efficient movement of materials and people in the economy, public and private sectors. Ensuring mobility and the necessary volume of transport, which we can compare with the "circulation of the economy", is one of the main conditions for the functioning of the economy.

- The theoretical and practical statements regarding the logistics activities related to the planning, purchase of materials, their delivery, storage, production planning, packaging and subsequent sending of the products to the customer have been enriched. The potential threat to existing transport systems is an area that needs increased attention.

- The results obtained from the conducted scientific study of the increase in the volume of transported materials and the extension of distances as a prerequisite for increasing security risks, convincingly prove a negative impact on these shipments. The proposed solutions to improve transport as an increasingly open system require more attention to its safety.

- The risks that can affect the economic result of the business have been identified. The task of security risk management is to anticipate possible threats, minimize losses in the event of a breach in the system and quickly return it to service. The applicant in the competition proposes options to minimize the threats that may affect existing modes of transport.

- The theoretical framework has been extended to practical dimensions of transport safety and its importance for ensuring the needs of logistics activities. Applying the necessary measures can lead to the protection of high value assets. We are increasingly faced with concepts such as intelligent transport routing or autonomous vehicles, which make them a possible target for various types of cyber threats and attacks, which are characterized by a relatively low level of threat to the attacker himself and a possible high level of damage.

- An analysis of the information systems, their protection, accessibility, relevance and timeliness of the information provided, necessary for adequate investment and financial decisions of the business entity, is presented.

- A study of the causes and consequences of disasters on the economies of individual countries is proposed, as a very important condition for maintaining a functioning economy, the quality of life of the population and security.

- A scientifically based analysis of minimizing the inflationary effect has been carried out not only through the available volume of financial resources, but also the efficiency and time horizon of their use.

- A "Legal and Police Model for Countering Organized Crime and Terrorism in Slovakia" is proposed, the effectiveness of which in the fight against organized crime and terrorism depends on the coordination of activities, the cooperation of the participating authorities, as well as their independence and constant efforts to minimize the unprofessional and illegal interference in the work of the police, the courts and the prosecutor's office.

- Research is presented on the Russian-Ukrainian conflict as a result of the confrontational nature of the international politics of world powers. Emphasis is placed on future development opportunities.

## **5. Reflections of scientific publications**

In the review materials provided to me, the wide application of the results of the research activity of the candidate in the competition is evident, which is also confirmed by the presented reference for the citations.

## **6. Critical Notes**

Some critical remarks can also be made to the materials submitted for review:

- in the design of some of the works there are inaccuracies, repetitions and editorial errors, which do not reduce their scientific value, but worsen the possibilities for quick perception;

- the main part of the published scientific works unfortunately concern a strictly specific audience - which narrows the possibilities for active participation in the scientific exchange, presentation and defense of innovative scientific ideas by Dr. Martin Mašlan to the academic community in the national security system;

- most of the published scientific works are co-authored and I hope, after the successful participation in this competition, Dr. Martin Mašlan to increase his independent developments and publications.

I hope and recommend Dr. Martin Mašlan to continue his ambitious scientific searches and the realization of the achieved scientific results in his teaching activity, because practice is a measure of the credibility of science, and the mission of science is to pave the reasonable path of practice!

I consider that the works are the independent work of the candidate and successfully defend the claims of scientific and scientifically applied contributions.

I have no joint publications with the candidate.

## **7. Conclusion**

Submitted by competition candidate Dr. Martin Mašlan documentation and scientific production meet the requirements of Art. 21.(1) and Art. 24 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and Art. 47.(2) and Art. 48.(3) for compliance with the minimum national requirements and with the requirements under Art. 1a, para. 2 of the Regulations for its application.

**My evaluation** of Dr. Martin Mašlan's scientific works, the only participant in the competition for the Associate Professor academic position in 9.1. National Security (Economic and Financial Security) professional direction, announced in the State Gazette /issue 89/08.11.2022/ of the Higher School of Security and Economics **is "positive"**.

I propose to the respected Scientific Jury of the competition to rank the candidate - Dr. Martin Mašlan and to propose to the Academic Council of the Higher School of Security and Economics - Plovdiv that he be elected and

occupy the Associate Professor academic position in 9.1. National Security (Economic and financial security) professional direction.

Veliko Tarnovo

12.02.2023

**Col. (ret.), Prof. Eng. Stoyko Dimitrov Stoykov, Ph.D., DSc.**