STATEMENT OF OPINION

by Assoc. Prof. Stefka Ilieva Popova, PhD,

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Regarding the materials submitted in connection with the competition announced by AMDFA Prof. Asen Diamandiev for the academic position of Associate Professor in the field of science 8, Arts, professional field 8.2, Fine Arts, Artistic Synthesis and Architecture major, for the needs of the Faculty of Fine Arts at AMDFA Prof. Asen Diamandiev, Plovdiv.

Basis for submitting this Statement of Opinion: membership on the scientific jury, pursuant to Order RD-27-130 of 26.05.2026 of the Rector of AMDFA. There are no procedural irregularities in the competition.

I. Information on the competitio

One candidate, Vladimir Petrov, PhD, is participating in the competition announced by the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts Prof. Asen Diamandiev for the academic position of Associate Professor in Artistic Synthesis and Architecture, professional field 8.2, Fine Arts, higher education field 8, Arts.

II. Candidate data

The creative biography submitted by Vladimir Petrov, PhD, traces a consistent and clearly recognizable path of research, teaching and professional development. He holds the educational and scientific PhD degree, professional field 5.7, Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy, scientific specialty Territorial and Landscape Planning and Urban Development, from the University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy, Sofia.

His biographical data show a sustained interest in the problems of urbanism, cultural heritage and spatial individuality dating back to his studies at UACEG, continued through his specialization at the Sorbonne, the development of his thesis and dissertation research, and through his professional work at the National Institute for Immovable Cultural Heritage, Plovdiv Municipality, his teaching at AMDFA, and his research work at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

III. Description of the candidate's research and artistic-creative activities

The monograph **Urban Metrics** (2026) occupies a central place among the works submitted. In it, the author develops an original interdisciplinary approach to understanding, analyzing and programming urban form. The study is structured in three main parts: a theoretical-philosophical framework, and international policies and standards in the field of urban development. The author introduces his own conceptual apparatus, including terms such as urban metrics, urban-metric urban fragment, urban-metric cellular automaton and urban-metric programming.

The city is treated not merely as a physical structure, but as **a bearer of memory, identity and communication between generations**. The author consistently argues for a two-way relationship between people and the city: people create the city, but the city also shapes people. This concept connects directly to the candidate's professional biography, tied both to the preservation of cultural heritage and to the practical analysis of the historic urban environment.

The link between his research interests and his professional experience is also evident in the **submitted publications**. The article Theological Aesthetics and the Geometric Construction Ad Quadratum in the Context of Opus Francigenum demonstrates a capacity for interdisciplinary analysis, bringing together architectural theory, art history, philosophy and theology.

IV. Research and artistic-creative contributions of the candidate

The candidate's **artistic-creative activity** also makes an impression: the realized memorial complex, his solo exhibitions and his participation in group shows demonstrate a sustained connection between his research pursuits and his artistic practice. These works form a natural continuation of the candidate's professional profile.

His active teaching work should also be noted, including the workshops he has organized, his work with students, and his professional practice in the field of cultural heritage. This contributes to the practical applicability of his research results.
The **citations and reviews presented** attest to the **recognition** of his research work and to interest in his original ideas.

His **research studies** reflect a high level of research competence, depth of inquiry, and a significant contribution to the fields of urbanism, spatial planning and cultural heritage, together with a clearly defined authorial stance. They reveal a researcher who does not confine himself to descriptive analysis but proposes his own models and solutions. There is a clear drive toward synthesis between theory and practice.

In conclusion, in light of the materials presented, I consider that the candidate meets the national requirements for participation in the competition announced by AMDFA Prof. Asen Diamandiev. The materials presented, together with his high level of professionalism, are grounds on which I confidently propose that the esteemed scientific jury award Vladimir Petrov, PhD, the academic position of Associate Professor in the field of science 8, Arts, professional field 8.2, Fine Arts, Artistic Synthesis and Architecture major. With conviction and a sense of responsibility, I will vote IN FAVOR.

Plovdiv
26. 07. 2026 Assoc Prof. Stefka Popova