



Evaluation for Associate Professor Ing. Emília Beblavá, Ph.D.

Vienna, 10 April 2017

This evaluation recommends to promote Associate Professor Ing. Emília Beblavá, Ph.D. to become full Professor. The evaluation is based on the following four criteria: (1) her standing within the field of Political Science and beyond; (2) her publishing record; (3) her track record in contributing to and implementing major research projects; and (4) her teaching record with a focus on doctoral students.

(1) Her standing within the field of Political Science and beyond

Emília Beblavá has succeeded in establishing herself as a well-known figure in Political Science. She is publishing widely, participates in a number of major research projects, is a member in several professional associations and regularly participates at conferences. While the range of her expertise is wide, she is especially known for, in the best tradition of public policy, linking political science to economics. Her work has interesting sociological implications as well.

Furthermore, her work on transparency and anti-corruption has attracted plenty of attention not only inside but also outside of academia. It is no coincidence that Slovak municipalities, Slovak government, World Bank, US Justice Department, European Commission, and the United Nations Development Programme, to name but a few, have drawn from her expertise. The kind of work she does has very important policy implications.

(2) Her publishing record

Emília Beblavá has a very good publication record. She has published in very good peer-reviewed journals such as *Public Policy Studies*, *Europe-Asia Studies* and *Sociologia*. Her work is also widely cited. This shows that she not only accomplishes to get her papers published in relevant outlets but that this work then also has an impact.

Three key-words summarize her publications well: public policy, transparency, anti-corruption. These are important subjects of study, and her work clearly contributes to the existing body of knowledge. In addition to a rigorous scholarly strand of her research, she has also published important policy pieces. The Transparency International books she published in 2006 and 2009 are particularly noteworthy in this regard.

(3) Her track record in contributing to and implementing major research projects

She has participated in no less than 14 externally funded research projects. This is an outstanding record. It even includes a Framework 7 programme (ANTICORRP). These Framework 7 programmes were highly competitive. Out of these 14 projects, Emíliá Beblavá was eight times principal investigator. This, too, is a remarkable record.

Based on this record, it is very reasonable to assume that she will be successful in acquiring external research grants in the future as well. Track-record matters in these applications and Emíliá Beblavá has a very strong one.

(4) Her teaching record with a focus on doctoral students

She has supervised four doctoral students thus far. Out of these four, two have already completed their doctoral studies. Two are doing their studies right now, with one of them coming up to defend this year and another one being in the first year.

This overview already suggests that Emíliá Beblavá succeeds in making their students succeed. The topics that her doctoral students have worked on are highly pertinent. Two students who completed their studies already worked on political-administrative relations, including the tensions and the politicization involved. The students who are still working on their projects deal with equally salient topics. There is a study on electoral success in municipalities in Slovakia and another one on the relations between mayor and municipal assembly.

The study on electoral success employs quantitative methods, which is very appropriate given the research topic.

Overall assessment

Given her excellent track-record, I recommend to promote Emíliá Beblavá to become full professor in Political Science at the Faculty of Social and Economic Science of Comenius University in Bratislava.



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