

STANDPOINT

by Associate Professor **Ivan Vasilev Trichkov, PhD**, PU "Paisii Hilendarski", **Pedagogical Faculty, Department of "Pedagogy and Educational Management"**

of the materials submitted for participation in a competition for filling the academic position "Professor" of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski"

by field of higher education 3. Social, economic, and legal sciences professional direction 3.2.

Psychology (Pedagogical and age psychology - Child Psychology)

In the competition for "Professor", announced in the State Gazette, no. 92 of 18.11.2022. and in website of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" for the needs of Department of "Psychology" at the Faculty of Education participated as a candidate, Associate Professor Kirilka Simeonova Tagareva, PhD from Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski".

1. General presentation of the procedure and the candidate

By order No. PD-21-69 of January 18, 2023, of the Rector of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" (PU) I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury of a recruitment competition of the academic position of "professor" in the PU in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic, and legal sciences, professional direction 3.2. Psychology (**Pedagogical and age psychology - Children's psychology**), announced for the needs of the Department of Psychology to the Faculty of Education.

For participation in the announced competition, documents were submitted by only one candidate: Associate Professor Kirilka Tagareva, PhD from Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski".

The **set of paper materials** presented by Associate Professor Kirilka Tagareva, PhD includes all necessary documents for participation in the competition. They correspond to the requirements of ZRAS, the regulations for its application and the internal rules of Plovdiv University.

For the purposes of the competition, Associate Professor Kirilka Tagareva, PhD submitted 62 scientific papers, 1 monograph, 55 articles, 3 studies, 1 chapter of a collective monograph in co-authorship, 1 textbook co-authored and 1 teaching aid.

Attached for reviewing in the competition are 48 scientific works, 1 monograph, 3 studies, 42 articles, 1 chapter of a collective monograph in co-authorship, and 1 teaching aid. The distribution of scientific works in the country and abroad is as follows: 39 in the country and 9 abroad.

The scientific works (48 pieces) for review under the competition can be categorised as follows:

By type: monograph – 1 item, articles published in scientific publications, refereed and indexed in a global database with scientific information - 2 items, articles and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes – 40 nos., studies published in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes - 3 nos., 1 chapter from collective monograph in co-authorship, and 1 textbook.

By language: in Bulgarian – 36 items, in Russian – 9 items, in English – 3 items.

By number of co-authors: independently 39 items, in co-authorship with one co-author – 7 items, with two co-authors - 1 item, with three co-authors - 1 item.

2. General characteristics of the applicant's activities

Assessment of educational and pedagogical activity

During the years of professional realization, Associate Professor Kirilka Tagareva, PhD led training courses in: Developmental Psychology, Attachment Theories, Developmental Psychology in preschool age, Social activities in early childhood, Educational psychology, Psychology of communication, Psychology of learning, Psychology of personal growth, Developmental psychology in childhood and adolescence, Communication and attachment in childhood age, Developmental psychology in childhood, Ontogeny of communicative-speech competence. In view of the fact that the competition is for a professorship, it is important to note that the content of the lecture courses is provided as well as with the created teaching aid, so with most of the publications.

It is also important to evaluate Associate Professor Tagareva, PhD extra curriculum work with students, graduates and doctoral students. Over the years, she has supervised 48 successful graduates, graduates in educational and qualification degrees "bachelor" and "master". Her work with students is diverse. He regularly consults with them on the issues of the taught material, on scientific issues and on issues related to their practicality training. He is the scientific supervisor of 5 successfully defended doctoral students.

Associate Professor Kirilka Tagareva, PhD has an impressive number of participations in scientific projects. She participates in total in 16 scientific projects, 2 of which are international, he is the head of 2 research projects the project. The number of participations in scientific forums is also impressive. She participated in 28 scientific forums, 21 of which in international and 7 - in national. A total of 98 were identified citations. It is important for the competition to note that she is a member of two professional organizations in the psychological scientific field: in the Society of Psychologists in Bulgaria and in Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, "Pedagogy and Psychology" section. She gave lectures in Moscow State Psychological and Pedagogical University of master's students program "Psychological well-being in children and adolescents".

Evaluation of the candidate's scientific and scientific-applied activity

As a habilitation thesis, Associate Professor Tagareva, PhD presents the monograph *"Communication, attachment and parental attitude in childhood"* (2020). They are in the monograph examined the emergence and development of the child's communication with adults and peers; affection; the parental attitude towards the child from birth to age seven. The study presents communication as an interaction between two or more people, where each participant is active and appears as a subject. Conceptually, attachment and parenting are addressed by the author as products of communication. The different types of communication with the adult shape different results: in situational-personal communication the first affective-personal relationships between the child and the adult are built; in situational business communication - the practical connections; in non-situational-cognitive communication-informational - cognitive contacts. Affection is defined in the context of the concept of communication as the first affective-personal relationship to emerge between the child and the close adult. In the parental relationship Associate Professor Tagareva, PhD differentiates two main principles: personal and normative. The personal beginning expresses in the attitude towards the child as a unique and unique person, the normative beginning

includes the evaluation of the child's qualities against the norms in society. I believe that this type of research fully meets the requirements for monographic work. The theme of the monograph is also interpreted in some of the appendices for the essay contest. Other articles that may be highlighted cover important issues related to: *Early childhood wellbeing; Psychological advice to parents on communicating with children from an early age; Characteristics of maternal attitude towards children; Early foundation of communicative competences; Diagnosis of the game activity of two-three-year-old children, etc.*

Associate Professor Tagareva, PhD also presents three studies: *"Mental well-being in the late adolescence" (2016)*. An empirical study of the mental well-being of 18–19-year-old boys and girls. The study is based on the model of Carol Rieff (C. D. Ryff, 1995) on mental well-being as a holistic experience expressed in the subjective feeling of happiness, satisfaction with oneself and one's own life. The main method in the research is an adapted Shevelenkova-Fesenko questionnaire.

In the second study *"Mental well-being and burnout syndrome. An empirical study of the burnout syndrome in workers in the educational and social sphere" (2016)* are presented results of an empirical study of professional burnout at working in the educational and social spheres. The main method is a Bulgarian version of "Methodology for assessing the syndrome of "burnout" in professions from the "person-person" system of N. Vodopiyanova.

In the third studio *"Development of communication with the adult and with peers - a condition for well-being in personal growth" (2017)* the author examines communication as a condition for the healthy development of the child and for the formation of his personality. The main forms of communication with peers are considered: emotional-practical, situational-business, and extra-situational-business.

In the collective chapter of the monograph *"Psychological aspects of development of key competences through the application of electronic educational resources" (2022)* are presented: electronic educational resources in the Bulgarian educational environment; the key competencies as a factor for successful personal functioning the social environment of the XXI century; psychological theories applicable to the study of the possible positive impacts of electronic educational resources on the development of key competences among modern students; psychologically ways to study the possible positive impacts of electronic educational resources on

the development of key competences in children and students; influences of the virtual characteristics of electronic educational resources on children and adolescents.

The university manual presented by Associate Professor Tagareva, PhD (Developmental Psychology at an early age. Diagnostics, 2017) aims to support students of a specialty "Psychology" during their preparation in the study discipline "developmental psychology- second part", which is dedicated to early childhood development. The aid is compliant with the core course in that discipline and relies on students being familiar with the content of the lecture course.

3. Evaluation of the personal contribution of the candidate

The scientific contributions Associate Professor Tagareva, PhD have their authoritative representativeness, high theoretical and scientific-applied value; they find application in the learning process and in psychological science. The author's research has results on which they are derived approaches and practical ways that can be applied in the psychological practice.

In a more precise and generalised form, scientific contributions are in the field of research, related to different age periods, a number of psychological constructs, their specific features and interrelationships on the basis of which models are derived, applicable in practice.

4. Critical remarks and recommendations

I know Associate Professor Tagareva, PhD as a responsible, conscientious, precise, informed person to current problems of modern psychology. I believe that the current implementation in the lecture and extracurricular activity, as well as its research activity, are characterised by high professionalism and fully correspond to the profile of the competition.

Her research is well-argued, methodologically, and statistically sound, with results significant for theory and practice. I accept the thus presented materials of Associate Professor Tagareva, PhD and I have no critical remarks. I recommend Associate Professor Tagareva, PhD to continue scientific her research and teaching activities in the field of psychology.

CONCLUSION

Associate Professor Tagareva, PhD is an established specialist who deservedly enjoys authority among the academic and professional community. The candidate in the competition has presented **sufficient** scientific works. The theoretical developments have practical applicability, as a part of them are directly oriented towards academic work. Her scientific and the teaching qualification of is unquestionable. There have been no reports of plagiarism, and none found. The scientific production of Kirilka Simeonova Tagareva, PhD is fully compliant with ZRAS for awarding the scientific title "Professor". All this gives me the reason to give my **positive assessment** and to recommend to the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Pedagogy in Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" for the election of Associate Professor Kirilka Simeonova Tagareva, PhD to the academic position of "Professor" in PU "Paisii Hilendarski" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic, and legal sciences, professional direction 3.2. Psychology (Pedagogical and Age Psychology – Child Psychology).

25.02.2023

Plovdiv

PhD

Referee:

(signature)

Assoc. Professor Ivan Trichkov