

STATEMENT

of PROF. ZHELKA KOLEVA TABAKOVA, PhD

Professor in the National Academy of Music (NAM)

„Prof. Pancho Vladigerov“, Sofia

about the materials submitted for participation in a competition

for taking the academic position of “Associate Professor”

in “Paisii Hilendarski” University of Plovdiv

in: area of higher education 8. Art

professional trend 8.3. Art of music and dance (History of music)

In the competition for “Associate Professor”, declared in State Gazette, issue 92 from 18.11.2022 and on the internet page of “Paisii Hielndarski” Unievrski of Plovdiv, for the needs of the Department of Music as part of the Pedagogical faculty, as a candidate there applies **Chief Assist. Prof. Zdravka Marinova Hvarkata** from the Department of music in the Faculty of Pedagogy.

1. General presentation of the candidate

With an order № RD-21-74 dated 18.01.2023 of the Rector of Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”, I have been appointed a member of the Scientific Jury for the competition for taking the academic position of “Associate Professor” in PU in the area of higher education 8. *Art*, professional trend 8.3. *Art of music and dance* – scholarly specialty *History of music*, announced for the needs of the department of Music as part of the Faculty of Pedagogy.

The documents and materials submitted both on paper and electronically by **Chief Assist. Prof. Zdravka Marinova Hvarkata** meet the requirements of the Law for development of academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB) and the respective Regulations of PU “Paisii Hilendarski”. By content and length the publications meet the competition profile and the requirements for the academic position of “Associate Professor”. The candidate for the competition has submitted documents referring to the procedure for granting the academic title of “Associate Professor” and a significant number of scientific papers published after acquiring the title of “ESD “doctor. In the reference on the Minimum number of points in the groups of indicators for the academic position of “Associate Professor”, out of the required 360, the candidate strikes the actual number of **1 145 points**.

The candidate **Assoc. Prof. Zdravka Marinova Hvarkata** has enclosed **36** scholarly works altogether, out of which: **2** monographs, **4** treatises; **28** research articles, out of which **23** in Bulgarian, **5** in English (out of which **1** in a world database and **1** in Russian); **2** university manuals. The above-mentioned scientific publications do not repeat the publications from the candidate’s previous academic procedure. All submitted research works were published in collections of papers from scientific conferences and respected international journals. They reveal the authors interests in areas which concern the set of issues as part of the candidates’ competences.

General characteristics of the candidate

Brief CV data on the candidate

Chief Assist. Prof. Zdravka Marinova Hvarkata graduated her high-school education of music in “Dobri Hristov”-Varna, specialty Piano (1977-1982). She acquired three master degrees in: “Choral conducting” and “Musicology” (History of Music) in 1982-1988 in the Bulgarian State conservatory (NAM “Prof. Pancho Vladigerov”, Sofia) and Master of Law/Law enforcement” in Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”. Since 1988 Hvarkata has been working as a lecturer in PU Paisii Hilendarski” – Assistant Professor, senior Assist. Professor, and since 1977 till nowadays – Chief Assistant Professor. She acquired ESD “doctor” in “Musicology and the art of music” in 2010. Hvarkata has 35 years of work experience being a university lecturer.

The teaching-and-pedagogical activity of Chief Assist. Prof. Zdravka Marinova Hvarkata, PhD, includes working out new curricula, preparing and giving lectures to students from the Bachelor- and Master- degree studies in the Pedagogical faculty, the Department of Music, in compulsory and optional disciplines, as well as guiding students. She teaches *lecture courses* and *seminars* in the specialties “Pedagogy of teaching music” and “Music” in the disciplines: History of Bulgarian music, Harmony part I and part II, Harmony with arrangement part I and part II and seminars in “Compulsory piano” in the specialties “Music” (part I-VII) and “Pedagogy of teaching music” (part I-IV).

Hvarkata’s professional interests lie mainly in the field of history of Bulgarian and West-European music and the theory of music. She has published: University manual – “Bulgarian music culture”. A collection of texts. (2016) and “Theory of music”. Tests. (2019).

Hvarkata has taken part in: projects as part of the Ministry of labour and social policy „*Open EUD 2013 – School of life*“ and a National project of the “*Orpheus’s flame*” Foundation (2015), national forums – conferences on the issues of teaching music, artistic-and-creative concerts of students in the “Apolon” hall, the Theatre hall – PU and the “Trakart” hall.

Candidate’s scholarly and scholarly-applied activity

In the open competition, for a basic habilitation thesis Chief Assist. Prof. Zdravka Hvarkata submits the monograph “*Dobri Hristov’s secular choral music. Genres, topics, issues*”. In it Hvarkata reviews and analyses a part of D. Hristov’s works who stayed aside in previous research studies she quoted, thus focusing her researcher’s viewpoint and enlarges the music characteristics in the composer’s works. Hvarkata suggests her own author systematization of the works and makes a summary of the specifics in the composer’s musical language. Here’s a quotation: “*The genre-and-topical scope of Dobri Hristov’s secular choral music has been outlined.*” Thus, the monograph adds another fragment to the multi-layer musical vocal sound in the works of the prominent Dobri Hristov.

The second monograph “*Aspects of the form and genre in Simeon Pironkov’s works*” has been dedicated to an art figure in the modern Bulgarian school of music and elaborates on five genre spheres of his compositions. For this aim Hvarkata, PhD has made a thorough study with professional and historical retrospect, with the presumption of memory and keeping for future generations. As for the issues of the genre and topics in S. Pironkov’s works, she makes an analogy with classical pieces by previous time periods, thus making an association between the Bulgarian composer’s school with the European one. In this way Zdravka Hvarkata, PhD

makes her own contribution to the Bulgarian musical historiography as a musician and musicologist.

By topics and set of issues reviewed the *Treatises* refer to the monographs – in **3** of those there are viewed again other musical forms out of the variety in Dobri Hristov's works; in **1** the oratorical genre in S. Pironkov's works is analysed.

One could say that Hvarkata, PhD strives to be thorough enough in what is of interest for her concerning the issues in the works of the two composers, with which she contributes for enlarging and adding to the studies on their works.

In the *articles and reports* Hvarkata focuses on the set of issues of musicology, musical pedagogy, interpretation and innovative approaches in teaching, choral conducting, the synthesis between verbal and non-verbal language of words, music and psychology.

Hvarkata has published also **2** university manuals: *A collection of texts* and *Tests*. The Collection of texts "Bulgarian music culture (2016) focuses on analysing, quote, "the short form, the transparent musical layout and the high artistic value" in the works of the second generation and the first generation of Bulgarian composers, its central figure being Dobri Hristov, who actually introduced these notions, accepted after that by musicologists in Bulgaria.

"Theory of music. Tests" (2019) refers directly to practice and concerns the innovations in teaching music.

Citations: **4** in collective works (collections) with scientific referencing, **6** in non-reference journals.

3. Assessment of the candidate's personal contribution

With her research works Chief Assist. Prof. Hvarkata, PhD fills the gap in the Bulgarian music culture and the professional biography of two leading composers from the first and second generation in Bulgaria. The analyses of the form, genre and the issues they refer to, provide an indisputable contribution to teaching music and musical pedagogy.

4. Critical remarks and recommendations

I do not have any critical remarks to make concerning the content and structure of the materials submitted for the competition.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials submitted by Chief Assist. Prof. Zdravka Hvarkata meet all requirements of the Law for developing academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for applying LDASRB and the respective Regulations of PU "Paisii Hilendarski". The candidate in the competition has submitted a large number of research works, published after the materials used at defending ESD "doctor". In the candidate's work there are original scientific and applied contributions. Her theoretical works have practical application and part of them is directly oriented to the teaching work with students.

The scholarly and teaching qualification of Chief Assist. Prof. Zdravka Hvarkata, PhD is more than enough. The result she achieved in the teaching and research activities comply completely with the minimum national requirements.

After getting acquainted with the materials and research works submitted for the competition, analysing their significance, their scholarly, scholarly-applied and applied contributions, I find

it well-grounded to grant my positive assessment and recommend the Scientific jury to make a report-proposal to the Faculty council of the Pedagogical Faculty for electing **Chief Assist. Prof. Zdravka Marinova Hvarkata** for the academic position of Associate Professor in PU “Paisii Hilendarski” in: Area of higher education 8. Art, professional trend 8.3. Art of music and dance scientific specialty (History of music).

16.03.2023

Statement made by:

(signature)

Prof. Zhelka Tabakova, PhD