

STATEMENT
ON A COMPETITION FOR THE ACADEMIC POST OF ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR

in the field of higher education:	1. Pedagogical Sciences
Professional field:	1.3. Pedagogy of Education... (Methodology of orientation in the surrounding world)
Announced in:	State Gazette, No. 98/19.11.2024
for the needs of:	Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski - Plovdiv"

The statement was prepared by:

Dr. Ani Hristova Epitropova, Associate Professor at Paisii Hilendarski University - Faculty of Education, Department of Educational Planning, as a member of the scientific jury for the competition, according to the Order № RD - 22-83/17.01.2025 of the Rector of Paisii Hilendarski University - Plovdiv, Prof. Dr. Rumén Mladenov.

Only one candidate has applied for the competition:

The only applicant for the position was,

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dr. M. Kalofova, Department of Preschool Pedagogy, Paisii Hilendarski University.

I. General description of the submitted materials

1. Application details

For participation in the competition the candidate assistant professor Dr. Bilyana Mladenova Kaloferova has submitted eleven publications, which include one habilitation work - monograph; one published book based on a defended dissertation for the award of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor", five scientific publications in publications refereed and indexed in world-known databases of scientific information and four articles published in non-refereed publications with scientific peer review.

The scientific works accepted for consideration have not been used for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" and for the academic position of "Principal Assistant Professor" and are within the scope of the competition.

Also submitted are the application for admission to the competition, a professional curriculum vitae in accordance with the European standard, diplomas of higher

education, doctoral degree, a general list of publications and copies of the works, a reference to the original scientific contributions in the works for the competition in Bulgarian and English, abstracts of the publications for the competition in Bulgarian and English, a list of citations for the competition, references for research activity, teaching activity, scientific and organizational activity, and a list of citations for the competition.

The submitted documents meet all the requirements and provide detailed information about the contributions and publications of Dr. Biliana Kaloferova.

2. Details of the applicant

The candidate has the necessary professional experience in the system of preschool education, which she builds in the system of higher education as a lecturer, doctoral student in the doctoral program Theory of Education and Didactics in the Department of Preschool Pedagogy at the Faculty of Education of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski"; participant in the Young Scientists and Postdoctoral Fellows Program; from 2018 to 2020 assistant professor at the Department of Preschool Pedagogy and from 2022. From 2018 to 2020 - Assistant Professor at the Department of Preschool Pedagogy at the Faculty of Education of Plovdiv Paisii Hilendarski University.

3. General description of the candidate's scientific works and achievements

The candidate has submitted publications that can be systematized in four areas of the competition:

- The competency approach and key competences in guiding the child towards a sustainable and healthy lifestyle;
- Health education and its application in guiding the pre-school child in the world around him;
- Project-oriented technology and its application in preschool
- The 'Átelie' as a complementary form of pedagogical interaction in orienting the child in his environment.

No plagiarism was found in the scientific papers submitted to the competition.

4. Characteristics and evaluation of teaching, project work and other activities

The candidate has the necessary participation in research and educational projects and is actively involved in the research and administrative activities of the faculty.

In the teaching and learning activities, the academic courses taught by the candidate are related to the subject of the advertised competition and are included as

compulsory or elective courses in the curricula of the BSc, BSc, MSc and MSc programmes.

5. A substantive analysis of the candidate's scientific and applied achievements contained in the competition materials

The content analysis of the publications of the candidate as. Dr. Bilyana Mladenova Kaloferova proves her ability to discover, analyze, interpret and research relevant and topical scientific topics in the field of the competition. The publications presented are related to the possibilities of integrating health education in orienting the child in the surrounding world, the application of the competency approach and the development of key competencies in orienting the child in a healthy lifestyle, etc.

A project-oriented model for health education based on integrative linkages and key competencies has been developed. The reflective organization and implementation of a project-oriented model for authentic and multifaceted assessment of the preschool child's key competencies is described. Authored projects are developed that integrate health education, art, sports, digital technologies and competencies into a unified framework, as well as a sufficient set of topics to conduct the workshop as a complementary form of interaction. The research of a scientific and methodological nature is the personal work of the candidate. Their citation by other authors proves their scientific relevance and significance.

The scientific papers are on the topics of the competition and have been published in peer-reviewed scientific journals. The main contributions are related to the enrichment of existing theoretical formulations through their application in practice.

6. Critical comments and recommendations

I have no critical remarks to the peer-reviewed papers and the activities of the candidate, as well as for the future use of the scientific and applied contributions of the candidate.

7. Personal impressions of the candidate

I know Asst. Dr. Biliiana Kaloferova since her appointment as Assistant Professor. All my professional interactions with her in various professional situations confirm that she possesses the necessary personal and professional qualities to hold the position of Associate Professor.

8. Conclusion on the application

Having read the materials and scientific works submitted in the competition and based on the analysis of their significance and contributions contained therein, I confirm

that the scientific achievements are in accordance with the minimum national requirements and with the additional requirements of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv on the Conditions and Procedure for the Acquisition of Scientific Degrees and for Holding Academic Positions.

II. General conclusion

The materials and scientific works presented in the competition are sufficient grounds to give a positive evaluation and to recommend the Scientific Jury to propose to the Scientific Council of Paisii Hilendarski University to elect Assoc. Dr. Bilyana Mladenova Kaloferova to take the academic position of Associate Professor in the field of higher education 1. 1.3. (Methodology of orientation in the surrounding world).

Date: 12.03.2025

Prepared the opinion:

Assoc. prof. Ani Epitropova, PhD