

OPINION

by Prof. Youri Ianakiev, PhD

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on the materials submitted for participation in a competition

for the academic position of "associate professor"

at University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski"

in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences

professional direction 3.4. Social activities

(Social policies for adults and elderly people)

In the competition for "associate professor", announced in the State Gazette, issue 98/19.11.2024 and on the website of University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski" for the needs of the Department of "Social Activities" at the Faculty of Pedagogy, as a candidate, senior assistant Dr. Tanya Alyosheva Vazova from University of Plovdiv Paisii Hilendarski" participates.

1. General presentation of the procedure and the candidate

By order No. RD-22-445 of 18.02.2025 of the Rector of University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski", I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury of a competition for the academic position of "associate professor" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional direction 3.4. Social activities (Social policies for adults and elderly people), announced for the needs of the Department of "Social Activities" at the Faculty of Pedagogy.

The only candidate who submitted documents for participation in the announced competition is Senior Assistant Professor Dr. Tanya Vazova from the Department of "Social Activities" at University of Plovdiv "P. Hilendarski".

The set of materials on paper submitted by Senior Assistant Professor Dr. Tanya Vazova is in accordance with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of University of Plovdiv. She has published 23 scientific works, of which: 1 habilitation monograph and 1 book based on a defended dissertation and 21 articles and scientific reports. 2 of the articles have been published in journals, refereed and indexed in global databases.

Brief biographical data of the candidate

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tanya Vazova graduated from the University of National and World Economy. In 2018, she defended her doctoral dissertation in Economics and Labor Management. Her career is primarily focused on providing consultations and services in the social sphere. Dr. Vazova is a researcher with an established professional status. As a person and colleague, she impresses with her temperament, collegiality, responsibility and consistency. She has excellent presentation skills and is able to inspire and stimulate colleagues, students and PhD candidates.

2. General characteristics of the candidate's activities

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tanya Vazova teaches a number of disciplines in the field of Social Activities. She works actively with students and teachers. She regularly participates in training to improve her qualifications. She has enviable experience in working on projects.

The monograph "Social Services for Adults and Elderly People in Bulgaria: Development, Challenges, Prospects" (2024) examines psychosocial aspects of services for adults. The proposed detailed analysis of social policies in this area allows to outline prospects for development. The articles proposed for the needs of the competition are grouped into several thematic areas:

1. Formation and development of personal and professional competencies among social workers
2. Improving the quality of life of the elderly
3. Complex policies aimed at the elderly
4. Social services and innovations

The contributions (scientific, applied science, applied) and citations can be summarized as follows:

1. Research on the regulatory framework and social policies for the elderly and the elderly.
2. Improving the quality of social services through support models for working with the elderly and people with disabilities.
3. Development of key competencies of specialists in the field of social services.

The presented scientific works are original scientific developments. The predominant part of the research conducted was conducted independently, and those in which he worked in collaboration, show teamwork skills in planning, conducting the research and summarizing the results. The submitted documentation, including the noted citations, are in order and meet all criteria within the meaning of the procedure for conducting this competition.

3. Critical remarks and recommendations

I recommend that Dr. Tanya Vazova continue to develop her research potential in the modern areas of social activities, to which she has unconditionally aspired.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials presented by Senior Assistant Professor Dr. Tanya Vazova meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for the Implementation of the law and the relevant Regulations of the University of Plovdiv.

The candidate in the competition has presented a significant number of scientific works published after the materials used in the defense of the PhD degree. The works contain original scientific and applied contributions. The publications have practical value, and some of them are directly oriented towards academic work. The results of the educational and research activities correspond to the specific requirements of the Faculty of Education.

After a detailed review of the materials and scientific papers presented in the competition, an analysis of their significance and the scientific, scientifically-applied and applied contributions contained therein, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment and to recommend to the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty of Pedagogy for the election of Senior Assistant Professor Tanya Vazova to the academic position of "Associate Professor" at the

Plovdiv University Paisii Hilendarski in the professional field professional field 3.4. Social Activities (Social Policies for Adults and Elderly People).

15/04/2025

Signature:

Prof. Youri Ianakiev, PhD