

OPINION

REGARDING a competition for the occupation of the academic position of "professor" in the scientific specialty "Economic Psychology and Labour Psychology", professional field 3.2. "Psychology", in the area of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, announced in SG no. 17 of 21st Feb. 2023. The competition was announced for the needs of the Department of Social Sciences and Business Language Training, Faculty of Economics, Trakia University - Stara Zagora.

FROM Prof. Roumen Ivanov Otouzbirov, PhD, Faculty of Economics, Trakia University, Scientific specialty: Organization and management of production (quality management), Professional field: 3.7. Administration and Management, Area of Higher Education: 3.0. Social, economic and legal sciences. Appointed as a member of the Academic Selection Committee in accordance with Ordinance No. 1651/11.05.2023 issued by the Rector of Trakia University - Stara Zagora.

1. General information about the candidate

In the competition for the academic position of "professor", an application has been submitted by one candidate - Associate Professor Tanya Gocheva Taneva, PhD, from the Department of Social Sciences and Business Language Training of the Faculty of Economics, Trakia University. The information submitted with the application is complete, reliable and prepared in accordance with the requirements of Art. 86 para 5 of the Regulations for Academic Staff Development (RASD) of TrU.

The candidate's education and training correspond to the format of the competition. In 1981, the candidate obtained a diploma for short-cycle tertiary education (now a bachelor's degree) in Preschool Pedagogy. In 1987, she graduated with a master's degree in psychology and philosophy from the Faculty of Philosophy of St. Kliment Ohridski University, Sofia.

In 2003, the candidate successfully defended her doctoral dissertation thesis on the topic "Psychological determinants of economic risk in the activities of private agricultural producers" and obtained the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" with a diploma from the Higher Attestation Commission, Sofia. Relevant diplomas are presented for the required educational levels. The candidate has knowledge and skills in written and spoken English and German. She has completed courses and specializations for additional qualifications. With the acquired skills, Assoc. Prof. Taneva finds additional fulfilment outside the University as a consultant, expert and therapist.

Tanya Taneva was appointed as a lecturer at Trakia University, Stara Zagora in 1989. She successively held the positions of assistant and chief assistant. After a successful competition in 2009, she acquired the academic position of "associate professor" at the Faculty of Economics. Since 2011 she has been the Head of the Department of Social Sciences and Business Language Training at the same faculty. She also took on a number of other administrative duties: 2004-2008 - expert in the Department for Evaluating and Improving the Quality of Education; 2011-2020 - General Secretary of Trakia University and Chairman of several university committees.

2. Candidate's fulfilment of the minimum national requirements for the academic position "Professor".

Assoc. prof. Tanya Gocheva Taneva, PhD has presented documents that are in accordance with the scientific indicators set in the Law on the Development of the Academic

Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB) and the Regulations for its Implementation (RILDASRB), for the Professional field 3.2. Psychology, which are herein presented in groups:

- **Group A** (50 points required) - attached Diploma for the Educational and Scientific Degree "Doctor", № 28531/20.06.2003– score of **50** points.
- **Group B** (100 points required) - written monograph, ISBN: 978-954-338-227-9 – score of **100** points.
 - **Group C** (200 points required) - 37 publications presented - score of **422** points.
 - **Group D** (100 points required) – citations presented - score of **215** points.
- **Group E** (100 points required) - documents from TrU presented – score of **278** points.

The minimum required points by groups of indicators for a professor in the professional field 3.2. Psychology is **550**. The candidate has submitted scientific production, materials and references for participation in the competition, totalling **1065** points, i.e. the minimum national requirements have been exceeded by **515** points or **107 %** above the required minimum.

3. General description and characteristics of the candidate's scientific output:

In the competition for the academic position of "professor", Associate Professor Tanya Taneva, PhD has submitted 40 publications (all of them after acquiring the academic position of "associate professor"), grouped according to the minimum requirements in the attached list:

- Independent monograph - one, with the character of a habilitation thesis, 274 pages, in Bulgarian;
- Published book based on her defended dissertation thesis for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor", 207 pages, in Bulgarian;
- Chapter of a collective monograph - one, in which she is the leading author of two co-authors, 17 pages, in Bulgarian;
- Articles and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world renowned databases with scientific information - 17 pcs. In 4 of them she is an independent author, in 1 she is the first author, in 6 she is the second author and in 6 she is the third or subsequent author. All of them are in English.
- Articles and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes - 18 pcs., of which 10 are in English. In 5 publications she is an independent author, in 4 she is the first author, in 7 she is the second author and in 2 she is the third or subsequent author.
- Published chapter of a collective monograph - one, leading author.
 - Published university textbook or a textbook that is used in the school system – two publications, in one of which she is an independent author.

The summarized quantitative characteristics of the scientific articles and reports – 35 items, shows that 15 of them are in the field of economic psychology, 8 refer to the psychology of work - i.e. over 2/3 of the publications correspond to the scientific specialty of the competition. This trend of conformity is even more strongly reflected in the published monographs and textbooks.

4. Teaching activities

4.1. Involvement in teaching activities. At present, Assoc. Prof. Tanya Taneva, PhD has 33 years of work experience as a lecturer at Trakia University, Stara Zagora. An inquiry conducted in the study department of the Faculty of Economics has established that for the

last 3 years she has taught a total of 3183 study hours (an average of over 1000 study hours per academic year), of which 3089 lectures, i.e. 3.4 times above the required norm. Over the years, the candidate has taught classes in more than 15 academic disciplines in all educational and qualification degrees at Trakia University on the basis of personally developed curricula. The thematic orientation of the disciplines, for the most part, is related to the scientific specificity of the competition.

4.2. Published educational materials. An independently developed university course book - "Economic Psychology", intended for students of all economic specialties, 144 pages. Also available are 15 personally developed online courses for various taught disciplines, which are available at Trakia Electronic University.

4.3. Scientific supervision of doctoral students. The candidate has two doctoral students that have successfully defended their theses at the Medical University of Plovdiv. She is currently the supervisor of three PhD students at Trakia University.

4.4. Scientific supervision of graduate students. 21 students successfully defended their theses in the Bachelor's Degree, 7 in the Master's degree and 24 in the professional qualification degree for teachers.

The above-mentioned activities show the candidate's serious commitment to teaching, as well as her competence to occupy the academic position of "professor".

5. Scope of research activity.

5.1. Areas of research and publication. The candidate's scientific interests are focused on psychological and socio-psychological problems in various areas of public practice and can be thematically separated into several main groups - Economic Psychology, Labour and Organizational Psychology, Pedagogical and Special Psychology, Social Psychology (psychology of social work). The relevance and significance of the studies are evident from the high appraisal of the subsequent publications - 17 works published in referenced and indexed scientific journals, 4 of which carry a corresponding Impact Rank from journals indexed in SCOPUS (reference attached).

5.2. Citations and referencing of the candidate's scientific work.

A reference with 33 citations has been provided for this important indicator. 5 of these citations are in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases. These evaluations are indicative of the recognized international and national scientific value of the respective works. They carry 215 points for the competition and exceed twice the minimum requirements for the academic position "professor".

5.3. Participation in research and educational projects.

References for participation in 5 national and 6 international scientific or educational projects have been presented. This activity inevitably contributed to increasing the quality of the candidate's research and teaching activities.

5.4. Contributions to science and practice.

From a personal professional point of view, I would like to emphasize the studies related to the subjective and objective characteristics of risk in entrepreneurial behaviour, with risk probabilities, with established dependencies between risk-taking and personal variables affecting it. These problems are one of the determinants in the management practice of economic entities, and they are hardly studied in our country. It can be said with confidence that the research, conclusions and recommendations made have a serious scientific and practical contribution.

Another important highlight is the author's Activity-integrated approach to the study of motivation for activity, the development and applicability of which have a scientific and practical contribution.

I fully accept the applicant's self-assessment of the scientific contributions contained in the presented scientific publications. I am convinced that the mentioned contributions bear

significance both for the enrichment of scientific knowledge and for the development of business.

6. Critical remarks and recommendations

I recommend the candidate for professor to create a school of young educators and entrepreneurs with whom to further develop these current studies and offer models for successful management decisions. It would be good if future research and publication activities continue to be directed both to renowned international journals and to specific sectors of the Bulgarian economy.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of the candidate's teaching, scientific and scientifically applied work, I believe that Assoc.prof. Tanya Taneva, PhD has an established profile of a scientist, researcher and educator and fully meets the requirements of the LDASRB, RILDASRB and the Regulations of Trakia University for its application.

The above gives me every reason to evaluate **POSITIVELY** her overall work.

Please, allow me to suggest to the esteemed Academic Selection Committee also to vote positively, and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Economics at Trakia University - Stara Zagora to elect Assoc. prof. Tanya Gocheva Taneva, PhD for "**Professor**" in the scientific specialty "Economic Psychology and Labour Psychology", professional field 3.2. "Psychology", in the area of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences.

20th June 2023

Stara Zagora

Author of the Opinion:...



(Prof. Roumen Otouzbirov, PhD)