

REVIEW

by Prof. Galya Mihailova Hristozova, DSc –

Burgas Free University,

member of the scientific jury, order No. 641/22.02.2024

by competition for an academic position associate professor on "Methodology of training in Bulgarian language and literature" in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences,

professional direction 1. 3. Pedagogy of training in ...

to Trakia University – Stara Zagora,

announced in the State Gazette, no. 99 of 28.11. 2023,

1. Procedure

The competition is organized in accordance with the normative documents regulating the selection of candidates for the academic position of "associate professor". The procedure **not fully complied with**, because there is no monograph on the subject of the competition. The documents submitted by the candidate and other publications for participation in the competition have been prepared in accordance with 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 on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Thrace university.

2. Applicant data

Assistant Dr. Desislava Ilcheva Siderova is the only candidate in the competition for docent in Teaching Methodology in Bulgarian language and literature. According to Art. 29 of Law on the Development of the Academic Staff, she has the right to participate in the competition for the academic position of "associate professor", since in February 2024 she defended her doctoral dissertation and was awarded the educational and scientific degree "doctor".

Dr. Desislava Ilcheva Siderova completed her secondary education at the Technical College of Economics in St. Zagora in 1994. In 1999, he graduated from University of Veliko Turnovo St Cyril and St. Methodius, educational and qualification "master", majoring in Bulgarian philology. In 2004, he completed a second master's program in social management.

From 2000 to 2004, he was a teacher of Bulgarian language and literature in secondary schools in St. Zagora.

From 2005 until today, he works at the Faculty of Education of Trakia University as an assistant in Bulgarian language and literature in the kindergarten and in 1. - 4. class.

She continued her qualification activities at the Trakia University and at the South-West University "Neofit Rilski" – Blagoevgrad, where she completed a two-semester course in intercultural education.

Uses written and spoken English and Russian.

She has developed 9 study programs, leads several study disciplines according to the announced competition.

A document has been submitted for academic employment with students in 2021/22 and 2022/23, from which it is evident that Dr. D. Siderova has more than 600 hours per year. There is no information for the current and next academic year.

3. Description of scientific works. Requirements according to Law on the Development of the Academic Staff

The scientific works of Dr. Desislava Siderova are **not sufficient** such as number, scientific genres, problematics and contributions for holding the academic position of "associate professor".

Dr. Siderova **does not perform the minimum requirements** for occupying the academic position "associate professor" in District 1. Pedagogical Sciences, Professional Direction 1.3. 1. 3. Pedagogy of training in ... (Methodology of training in Bulgarian language and literature)

According to group A – indicator 1 – A dissertation has been defended for the award of an educational and scientific degree "doctor" in 2024 on the topic: "Textocentrism in the linguistic-literary education of student teachers." The dissertation is in direction 1.2. Pedagogy, scientific specialty – Theory of education and didactics.

- **50 points.**

According to group B – indicator 3 - a monograph on "Metacognitive strategies for preschool education in Bulgarian language and literature" is presented, St. Zagora, Faculty of education, Trakia University, ISBN: 978-954-314-117-3.

- **0 points.**

Formally, the monograph does not meet the volume requirements for this genre, regulated by the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff. It should be a minimum of 100 standard pages with 1800 characters per page. The presented work has about 800 – 1000 characters per page, which makes its actual volume no more than 60 pages.

The monograph is not according to PN 1.3. – Pedagogy of training in ..., and in 1.2. The research was conducted with students using a survey method. In the entire text, there is nothing related to the teaching methodology of the Bulgarian language, which is the subject of the competition. It mainly examines students' readiness to become good teachers and their opinion about university preparation. It can hardly be called a monograph, because the text does not contain in-depth scientific research, scientific discoveries, achievements, ideas, new methods. In fact, this is an analysis of a survey with a grossly insufficient number of students – 43, which is not even done qualitatively. Tables, graphs, summary data that are specific to survey analysis are missing. The theory is presented fragmented, chaotic, not subordinated to one goal and one plan. I cannot recognize this text as a monograph.

By group G:

- Indicator 4 – Intermediate horizon for literature and music education (2023). Co-authored with D. Petkova, 133 pages. ISBN: 978-954314-115-9. The topic is interesting, the idea is well realized. The combination of two types of art – literature and music – is successful, well described, argued. There is no separation protocol and noted authorship in the monograph itself. The author herself indicated 15 points, which is 15% participation.
 - **15 points**
- **pointer 5** – the dissertation work was published – The text as a phenomenon of the educational environment (2024). St. Zagora, Faculty of Education, University of Trakia, ISBN: 978-954-314-116-6, 100 pages.
 - **75 points;**
- **indicator 6** – 1 article published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information – co-authored.
 - **1x15 –15 points**
- **Show 17** – 14 articles and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes, the articles on the topic of the dissertation are not differentiated. Co-authored – 2; one with three co-authors, the other with two

- 12 x10 – **120 points, 1 x 3 – 3.3 points; 1x2.5 – 2.5**
 - **Total 125.8 points**
- **indicator 9** – 1 studies published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals –**15 points**
- **By group D**
- **indicator 11** – **6 citations in scientific publications, referenced and indexed**
 - 5x15 –**70 points 1x4 – 4, total 74**
- **indicator 12** – **2 citations in monographs and collective volumes.**
 - **2x10 – 20 points**

Total 389, 8 points

Given that **the minimums are not met requirements** for occupying the academic position "associate professor" in District 1. Pedagogical Sciences, Professional Direction 1.3. 1. 3. Pedagogy of training in ... (Methodology of training in Bulgarian language and literature....) I do not find it necessary to note scientific contributions, teaching work, to review the presented other monographs, studies, articles and to describe in detail other activities that are a fact, but they are not sufficient grounds for a positive review.

Conclusion

There are the following non-compliances and violations of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff and the Regulations for its implementation:

1. Art. 24, para. 1, item 3 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff regulates the mandatory presentation of a monographic work, and item 10 of the Additional Regulations specifies what a monograph is¹. The presented work does not meet these requirements, it is not on the subject of a competition for the academic position of docent "Methodology of teaching in Bulgarian language and literature", 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1. 3. Pedagogy of teaching in ..., and is by 1.2. Pedagogy and does not correspond to the genre characteristics of this type of work.

¹ - "Monograph" is a published scientific publication that contains a complete and comprehensive study of a certain subject, problem or person, written by one or several authors adhering to the same point of view. A monograph is a scientific work that does not repeat or summarize existing knowledge, has scientific editors/or scientific reviewers, has an ISBN and is no less than 100 standard pages with 1800 characters per page. It contains extensive content, a comprehensive bibliography, and the text contains references to other scientific works".

2. There is no separation protocol for the co-authored monograph.²

Although the total number of points is almost 400, **under group B, indicator 3, the required 100 points cannot be placed**. This gives me reason to express my opinion that Assistant Dr. Desislava Ilcheva Siderova **does not respond** of the requirements and it **can not** to occupy the academic position of "associate professor" in the Department of Higher Education: 1. Pedagogical Sciences, Professional direction: 1.3. Pedagogy of training in ... (Methodology of training in "Methodology of training in Bulgarian language and literature" at University, pedagogical faculty and I will vote with "**Not**" for the occupation of the academic position of "associate professor" by Assistant Professor Desislava Ilcheva Siderova.

March 27, 2024

.....
Prof. Galya Hristozova, DSc

city of Burgas

² "Regarding monographs with more than one author, there should be a mandatory separation protocol between the authors, and in order for the work to be considered monographic, the author should have an independent number of pages that meet the definition of a monograph. In the case of authorship of a smaller number of pages, the participation of the corresponding author is considered a study/article.