

OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Dimitar Violetov Gyurov

member of a scientific jury in a competition for an academic position
Professor in the professional field 1.2 Pedagogy (Preschool pedagogy),
announced in SG, issue 67 / 28.07.2020,

decision of the Faculty Council in protocol № 14 / from 17.09.2020

report agreed with the Dean of the Faculty № RD 38-450 / 25.09.2020

with candidate *Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Plamenova Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree*

1. Data for the competition.

In connection with the procedure for participation of Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree, I do not find any omissions or violations of the Regulations on the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". The candidate meets both the minimum national requirements and the additional requirements of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" for holding the academic position of professor, an assessment that I will specify in detail in my presentation below.

2. Details of the candidate.

I will focus briefly on the successful career growth of the candidate, as the biographical data will be presented by the chairman of the jury constructed in the competition procedures. Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis obtained the degree of Doctor of Science with a diploma of Sofia University 2020-2, issued on 20.03.2020. The topic of her dissertation is an area that in the last years of the improvement of education has become extremely relevant, namely "Individualization and differentiation of pedagogical interaction in kindergarten." Thus, she upgraded the scientific degree Doctor of Pedagogy (scientific specialty 050700 with public defense on 02.12.2004 and diploma for doctoral degree from 5.09.2005) after many years of research and publication, which changes attitudes and proves the importance of pedagogical technologies in experimental -empirical and applied-creative plan.

Since May 2014 she has been an associate professor of 1.2. Pedagogy (Preschool pedagogy - language acquisition and speech development), and is a full-time lecturer (chief assistant and senior assistant) at Sofia University "S. Cl. Ohridski ", FNOI from May 2006. In the period 1999 to 2004 she worked as a children's teacher, primary school teacher of English

and history teacher in the education system. From 2000 to 2004 she was a full-time doctoral student in the Department of Preschool Pedagogy at the Faculty of Pedagogical Sciences of Sofia University.

From 2000 to 2010 she participated in 9 courses for university lecturers for postgraduate qualification and specialization, organized at NBU, Sofia University, DIUU, of which before obtaining the educational and scientific degree of Doctor 3 and 6 - before awarding the title "Associate Professor", and in 8 courses organized abroad in the period 2003 - 2012, one of which before the ONS "Doctor", and 7 before the award of the title "Associate Professor".

She participated in 14 scientific forums abroad in the period between the defense of her doctoral dissertation and habilitation. After the habilitation (2014 - 2018) she lectured on the Erasmus + program at the University of England Ruskin in Chelmsford, UK, on the Erasmus + program at the Faculty of Education of Comenius University in Bratislava, and after acquiring the ONS "Doctor" at the German Institute for Youth and Children, Munich (Germany), Bratislava (Slovakia), Patras (Greece), Budapest (Hungary), Cambridge (UK).

Assoc. Prof. R. Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree, has public presentations of monographs in Athens, Greece, at a summer seminar on Bulgarian language and culture for foreign Bulgarians and Slavists, Lozen, organized by the Faculty of Slavic Philology at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", at the Bulgarian Cultural Center in Bratislava, Slovakia. Her international academic experience after the first habilitation gives her the opportunity to participate in the evaluation of European research projects (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018) under the Erasmus + program (KD1 - "School Education" and "Youth"; KD2, etc. .) and as an external evaluator of draft proposals (2014, 2015 and 2016) in the field of education and science under the EEA grants mechanism.

Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree, is a member of prestigious organizations with academic performance: Scientific Secretary of the Bulgarian National Committee for Preschool Education OMEP at the World Organization for Preschool Education OMER, Member of the Board and the Executive Committee of the Bulgarian National Committee for Preschool Education OMEP in OMEP Preschool Organization, Project Coordinator "Projects and Communications", Member of the Control Commission of the Bulgarian National Committee for Preschool Education OMER at the World Preschool Education Organization, Member of the Cambridge Post-Doc Society (Cambridge, Great

Britain), Member of the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, Member of The Bulgarian National Committee for Preschool Education OMER at the World Organization for Preschool Education.

In the years 2012, 2014, 2017 Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree, received scholarships from the Slovak Government, Slovakia's National Scholarship Program for Foreign University Lecturers and Researchers (one month of research stay in Slovakia). In 2012: she received a scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Association (DAAD) for a research stay of foreign university professors in Germany, and in 2009 - a scholarship from the Central European University in Budapest (Hungary) as a visiting researcher. She also received a scholarship from the Greek government for foreign researchers and from the Faculty of Education at the University of Cambridge, UK (July-August 2006) - with the financial support of the Open Society Institute. I will focus on her participation as a habilitated lecturer in ONS Doctor. She is a member of the team of the NSDI project on NIS "Doctoral readings 2016", participates in the commission for development of curricula of the degree "Doctor", in the commissions for preparation of documents for accreditation of the degree "Doctor" (2009; 2015), for development of the concept and status of the Doctoral School at FNPP (2014). Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree, performs responsibilities related to: Erasmus + - Coordinator of TNFI (from February 2016 - present), is a member of the Faculty Council of FNPP / FNP (2015-2019), the Commission for Attestation of Teachers in FNPP / TFEU, of the Commission for preparation of a report on post-accreditation monitoring and control over the internal system for evaluation and maintenance of the quality of education and the academic staff of higher education institutions (2016), of accreditation commissions at the level of faculty for preparation of documentation for program and institutional accreditation, of the Commission for preparation of the documentation of FNOI (then - FNPP) under the project of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Science for rating of higher schools in Bulgaria (2010), of commissions for preparation of documentation and preparation of a self-assessment report in connection with the change of the name of FNPP in FNOI (2016; 2017).

3. The teaching activity of the candidate.

Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree, has many years of teaching and expert work related to her lecture courses in bachelor's and master's degrees. With

her competent academic presence, she improves and enriches the preparation of students at FNOI as a lecturer-holder, leading six disciplines in ONS Bachelor and six disciplines in ONS Master - full-time and part-time education. I also find it important and valuable for the research prestige of TNFI to focus on conducting lecture courses by Assoc. developed and taught in English by it (Annex №20). Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree, lectures at foreign universities (Appendix №4) and has trained 11 incoming students in her Erasmus lecture courses. He supervises five successfully defended doctoral students (four of them in English) and one before internal defense as of October 2020 (Appendix №17).

4. Research activity of Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree.

The candidate takes an active part in organizational and scientific committees of conferences at home and abroad (Appendix №13): September 23-25, 2015, Moscow, Russia OMER World Conference “Current trends in the development of Early Childhood Education and Care in the world “; 2001-2018, Sofia - active participation in organizational and scientific committees of the annual conferences of BNC-OMEP, where she has been awarded many times for her activity. Due to her erudition and the respect she has among the scientific community at home and abroad, she is a preferred member of the editorial boards of scientific Bulgarian and international publications (Appendix 14): Journal of Early Childhood Studies (Turkey); of the Yearbook of FNOI - Sofia University, Book "Pedagogical Sciences". Review professionally and objectively articles in Bulgarian and foreign periodicals (Appendix №15): "Pedagogical Research" - published by FNOI (2020); Multidisciplinary Journal of School Education, Poland (2017). She has participated in the career growth through scientific review of monographs and other university publications of academic professors in the department and in other Bulgarian universities.

Participates in scientific juries with reviews and opinions in nine procedures for awarding scientific degrees and for holding academic positions in competitions of Bulgarian and foreign participants.

5. Publication activity of the candidate for the academic position Professor.

Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree, participated in the competition with a total of 47 publications: two independent monographs published in 2020 after the award of the degree of Doctor of Science; in the period 2016-2020 published chapters in six collective monographs and books; three studies published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information; six studies in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific peer-review or publications in edited scientific volumes; four publications in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in a world-famous database of scientific information; 21 publications in unrefereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes; participation in a university collection on a European project of the FNOI and a textbook for the educational institutional network of kindergartens and in three author groups as a scientific editor and compiler.

Thus, in the scientometric table required by NACID as the number of points by indicators in the group of "B" and "G" Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree, proves 634.4 points, which exceeds the minimum requirements for the academic position of professor. According to indicator "E" for the significance of her publishing activity among scientific Bulgarian and foreign authors as a number of citations, she also proves much above the minimum of 100 points (725), and in terms of her work with doctoral students and participation in projects - 420, 6 points. In general, the total coefficient in the scientometric data for the academic position "Professor" of the candidate is 1932, which is a quantitative expression of the quality of academic teaching and research and creative activity of Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree.

6. Contributing aspects in the research and teaching activities of the candidate.

I confirm the contributions of Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree, reflected in the attached reference and as contributing moments in research, in applied practice and as her own projection, of her teaching activity. I would like to emphasize again the importance of the most important of them:

6.1. In the *research aspect, the candidate approves modern strategies and technologies of PO, which is the result of in-depth research and teaching activity* through:

- the developed author's methodology for studying the notion of a good, quality teacher and analyzing the personal professional profile of the children's teacher in the notion of students in Bulgarian and Slovak academic environment;
- applied inclusive approach for interaction with children with SEN, through which it provides their comfort in the educational institution;
- affirmation of the key role of the children's teacher in the personally significant pedagogical interaction;
- research thesis on the conceptual foundations of the variable dynamic model of pedagogical interaction, developed for application in Bulgarian kindergartens, based on learning through experience and personally significant practical experience;
- establishing statistical correlations between the skills of comparison and the skills of interpreting allegory, which enriches the theory, methodology and methodology of the educational field BEL.

6.2. *In practical terms, it establishes an innovative and significant as a leading specialist in preschool pedagogy and education* through:

- enriching the practice with model set pedagogical situations, achieving goals in the field of intercultural education, educating in tolerance to differences and a positive attitude towards nature;
- pedagogical presence in the educational system in Greece with the development of three complex programs for the practice of preschool inclusive education;
- research testing of technologies in language acquisition and speech development.

In conclusion, I give my categorical positive assessment regarding the holding of the academic position of Professor of the Candidate Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree. Her scientific work, her professional path and her indisputable qualities give me reason with conviction and satisfaction to offer the esteemed members of the scientific jury

to award her the academic position of Professor Assoc. Prof. Rozalina Engels-Kritidis, Doctor of Science degree, in professional field 1.2 Pedagogy (Preschool pedagogy).

15th Oct 2020

Jury member:

/ prof. PhD. Dimitar Gyurov /