

REVIEW

on the works in a competition for a professor in the professional field 3.3 Political Sciences
(Public and Social Policies), SG / issue. 54 / 29.06.2021

Reviewer: prof. Tsvetan Davidkov, Dr.Sc

The peer-reviewed materials are submitted for participation in a competition for a professor in the professional field 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, by professional field, 3.3 Political sciences (Public and social policies), announced in SG, issue 54 of June 29, 2021. The competition was announced for the needs of the Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Philosophy, Sofia University. The only participant in the competition is Associate Professor Tatiana Tomova, Dr.

Information about the participant

There is only one participant in the competition - Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Trifonova Tomova is an established long-term lecturer in the Department of Public Administration - FF, Sofia University. Her research experience at the University began in the Laboratory for the Study of the Political Life of the Bulgarian. Later he defended his doctoral dissertation in the field of social policy (Western European models of social policy). Then began her journey as a lecturer at Sofia University - Tatiana Tomova joined the teaching. Later she took a course in "Social Policy" in Political Science. With the establishment of the department and the specialty of PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, she became part of this department; she successively takes on a number of disciplines related to social and then public policy. In 2004 she was habilitated with the monographic work "Public Policies" and took the obligatory discipline "Formation and implementation of public policies", which she still leads. As a result of her many years of research in the field of social policy, Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova defended her second doctoral dissertation, for which she was awarded the scientific degree "Doctor of Science".

At the time of announcing this competition for the position of "professor", in addition to the specified mandatory discipline, she leads the following disciplines in the programs of PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: Policy making in the EU; Comparative public policies; Management of social programs; Project management in the public sphere. Colleague Tatiana

Tomova teaches in other programs and specialties - Public Policy and European Welfare State for students - with political scientists; Social policy - for students in Social pedagogy; Health and social policies - of students in Health Psychology. The above gives grounds to conclude that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tatiana Tomova makes a systematic and sustainable contribution to the development of important for the University and FF programs and specialties.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tatiana Tomova works systematically with students in various formats. Under her scientific guidance, every year on average between 3 and 5 masters successfully defend their theses. Four of her doctoral students have already received ONS Doctor. Her doctoral students work in the areas of her main competencies - public and social policies. Two of them have successfully realized as lecturers at Sofia University and continue the research and teaching activities of their supervisor.

Tatiana Tomova has her own contribution to the governance and administration of Sofia University. He has been the Head of the Department of Public Administration for two terms. During this period the department functions successfully, continues and undertakes a number of initiatives that contribute to the success of the Faculty of Philosophy and Sofia University. Currently, Tatiana Tomova is deputy dean of Faculty of Philosophy. She is one of the founders of the Master's program in Public Management and Policy, as well as the Master's program in Public Administration.

In conclusion: The teaching employment of Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova at Sofia University far exceeds the required one. It is related to the creation of competencies that correspond to modern processes in the field of public administration and the current development of theoretical science. Tatiana Tomova's contribution to Sofia University includes her successful work as Head of department and deputy dean of the Faculty of Philosophy.

Description of the submitted materials for the competition. Acceptability.

Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova has submitted all necessary documents required by Academic Staff Development Law in Republic Bulgaria and Rules on the Terms and Conditions for Acquiring Degrees and Occupation of Academic Positions of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” (Article 108). The documents are provided in E format - they cover 17 files and two folders. The information is selected and provided in a way and in a form that clearly presents the candidate and provides an opportunity to evaluate her teaching and research activities.

Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova participated in the competition for "professor" mainly with a monograph "The policy process: management based on narrowing" (215 pages), published by IM "St. Kl. Ohridski" in 2021. In addition, the monograph "Design of Policies, Programs and Projects", published in 2007 (by the Bulgarian School of Politics), was presented for participation in the competition. 8 more articles and scientific studies are presented, the book published on the basis of the second doctoral dissertation "The Bulgarian path in social policy. A story about the transition that does not end », as well as a reference to the citations of the scientific works of the candidate. I believe that all submitted works can be taken into account in the review.

Evaluation of submitted publications and scientific and applied scientific contributions.

The scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova refer to two related, yet different scientific fields. The first is social policy. In this field, the candidate for "professor" receives her scientific degrees, defending her first and second doctoral dissertations. The connection between the individual works in this field is a result of the study of the object and its development. However, they differ both in their subject and in the theoretical basis of his research. Initially, the subject of the study was the comparison between Western European models of social policies and the identification - on this basis - of the concept of social policy. The following research is directed in three directions: the change of the post-war models of social policy; the identification of the emerging model of social policy; the explanation of the special way of development of the Bulgarian social policy after the social changes from the 90s of the last century. In theoretical terms, it should be noted that in the book, based on her second dissertation (part of the documents for this competition), Tatiana Tomova applies basic theoretical frameworks to explain public policies, thus she analyses and derives major trends in the process of Bulgarian social policy. This is a transition from knowledge of practices to knowledge of the policy process - an opportunity not only to make summaries, but also to derive trends and justify predictions.

Assoc. Prof. Tomova's scientific studies in the field of public policy are the basis of her career growth. The main monographic work is in this area, as well as the monograph "Design of policies, programs and projects". The follow-up of the works in this field show consistency in the author's research interests. But the subject and the theoretical framework are undergoing significant development. The initial works focused on the very concept of public policies, as well as on the methods for their development. This is evident primarily in the monograph

"Design of policies, programs and projects." In a series of articles and studies (published in the period 2007 - 2021) Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova identified the features of the concept of public policies and especially the difficulties to apply it to the practices and processes of public administration in Bulgaria.

The monograph "The Policy Process: Management based on narrowing", with which Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova participates in this competition, provides answers to many of the identified problems related to the application of the concept of public policies in practice in Bulgaria. The main contradiction - according to the author - is related to the institutional and cultural tradition of implementation, which leads to the impossibility of searching for alternatives and creates limited opportunities for creating real state-public partnerships.

The undoubted success of the monograph is the third chapter: the idea of governance, which is based on narrowing, has been creatively transferred from economic governance to the policy process. Both the gender and the Bulgarian bottlenecks in the policy process have been identified, as well as the possibilities for reducing the stay in them in order to optimize the overall process. Although in the theoretical literature on policies the concept of process constraints is used, here for the first time it is clarified and instrumentalized - this makes it usable in both research practices and applied policies.

Extremely interesting, with significant heuristic potential, is the idea that what is an expense in the business process is a public trust (especially stakeholder trust) in the policy process. The delay in the business process affects the costs and lost profits; in policies - on the trust of the measures taken.

I accept the self-assessment of the scientific contributions in the application of Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova. The contributions are both theoretical and applied. They refer both to the development of theory and to the development of existing points of view. This development is able to greatly influence research practices and contribute to the creation of competencies for the "production" of policies. There is no doubt that all the contributions are the personal work of Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova.

Quotation and visibility

The main scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova (except for one article) are in Bulgarian. The articles and studies with which the candidate participates in the competition have been published in peer-reviewed and peer-reviewed journals and collections, most of which have been uploaded to CEOOL. Thanks to this, they are visible to that part of the scientific community for which the Bulgarian language is accessible. The publications of Assoc. Prof. T. Tomova are cited by Bulgarian and Ukrainian authors.

The quotation rate of Tatiana Tomova's publications is relatively high. In the field of public and social policies, a large number of Bulgarian-language authors, both young and established scholars, refer to her scientific works. It is quoted by Prof. Georgi Fotev, Prof. Todor Tanev, Prof. Alexander Marinov, Prof. Krastyo Petkov and others.

Teaching activities

As noted at the beginning, Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova is a lecturer with many years of experience. She teaches in bachelor's and master's programs in various specialties: Public Administration, Political Science, European Studies, Sociology, Psychology, Social Activities. Her disciplines are related to the current state of public administration practices and the development of theoretical science. Its core courses have electronic content and are based on the best in European and American policy science.

Other academic activities

Assoc. Prof. T. Tomova is a member of the editorial board of two periodicals: "Political Studies", published by the Bulgarian Association for Political Science and Public Policy.bg, published by the Center for Public Policy at Sofia University. He is the compiler and scientific editor of the collection of articles from the First International Conference on Public Administration.

She is also a lecturer at the Institute of Public Administration. Regularly trains employees of the state administration. Participates in numerous academies and schools for civil servants and politicians, organized by non-governmental organizations.

Project and consulting activity. Expertise for other organizations and target groups.

The project and consulting activity of Assoc. Prof. Tomova is extremely intensive. She has worked as a consultant to bodies and organizations at central, regional and local levels. Among the list of projects in which she participated, her work for the Ministry of Labor and

Social Policy, the General Labour Inspectorate, the State Agency for Child Protection, the Council for Administrative Reform at the Council of Ministers and others is impressive. She was a national expert in a European study to identify the narrowing of European labour markets. She participated in the preliminary evaluation of the Operational Program "Good Governance" for the programming period 2014-2020. For many years she worked as an evaluator of projects in European educational programs within the activities organized by the Centre for Human Resources Development. Currently, Assoc. Prof. T. Tomova is a member of the team of Sofia University for the implementation of the project for the establishment of a European University. The applicant has extensive experience in project management.

Personal impressions

I have known the candidate for more than 30 years. It is difficult for me to single out the most characteristic features of her, because of which I appreciate and respect her. Some of them are: accuracy; high personal standards for fulfilment of the undertaken commitments; ability to "fit" in the appropriate way in the teams and to make a significant contribution to their success; delicacy; ... She is a person I work with pleasure.

Conclusion

Given the above facts and assessments, I make the following conclusion: the candidate in the competition for professor of PN 3.3 Political Science (Public and Social Policies), SG / issue. 54 / 29.06.2021, Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova meets all the requirements for holding this academic position. This gives me a reason to join the decision of the esteemed scientific jury to award Assoc. Prof. Tatiana Tomova to the academic position of Professor.

Sofia, 14-10-2021

Signature:

(Tsvetan Davidkov)