**STATEMENT**

From

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vladimir Stanev,**

**Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of History**

on the competition for the defense of a dissertation for the degree **of**

**"Doctor of Sciences** in professional field 2.2. History and Archaeology

The competition announced by the Faculty of History of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" candidate is Prof. Dr. Veselin Yanchev. He is a long-time lecturer at the Faculty of History of Sofia University "St. He has initiated hundreds of undergraduates, masters and doctoral students in the overt and secret mechanisms of the New Bulgarian History. At the same time he is one of the most recognizable and significant faces of the historical guild in the public space.

It should be noted at once that what we have in our hands is the result of many years of tireless work - in researching the existing scientific and non-scientific literature, in checking it and checking it against the facts, in searching for the necessary archival materials, in their thorough analysis, in drawing the necessary conclusions.

The candidate had the scientific courage to enter into a highly ideologized topic in which a large number of historical fallacies have been deliberately introduced, repeated and, as a result, imposed in scientific circulation and among the public consciousness for over 70 years. One can safely say that the whole text of V. Yanchev is a vivid denunciation of the many myths that were purposefully created and maintained for a long time in Bulgarian historiography in support of one particular political party.

Also an important point in the dissertation is that of constitutionality and legality in Bulgaria, how they were followed in the turbulent period during and after September 1923. One can hardly argue with the right of the state to defend itself when attacked. But where does the line between necessity, legality and common sense lie? The author answers this question too - without bias and with a commendable effort to be as objective as possible.

Based on a vast amount of sources (archives, published documents, memoirs, diaries, newspapers and magazines), and based on an incredible amount of research, the dissertation goes beyond the title it carries and becomes a deep dissection of the political and social life of Bulgaria in the period under study. It is no exaggeration to say that the text presented is the finest and most objective study of the period in the early 1920s in Bulgarian historiography to date.

All of the above gives me full confidence to vote positively **for the award of the degree of DOCTOR OF SCIENCE in professional field 2.2. History and Archaeology to Prof. Dr. VESELIN KOSTOV JANCHEV** under the announced competition of the Faculty of History of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vladimir Stanev

Sofia

25.11.2022