

(English translation)

REVIEWER'S OPINION

on Competition procedure for the position of Associate Professor in the field
3.2 Psychology (Child and Adolescent Psychology)

Announced by Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Faculty of Philosophy in the State Gazette, issue 24 / 17.03.2023 and on the Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski website

By **Prof. Irina Zinovieva, DSc**

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Faculty of Philosophy,

professional field 3.2 Psychology in her capacity of Scientific Jury Member established following order RD-38-178_21.4.2023

of the Rector of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

The **only candidate** who submitted documents for participation in the announced competition is **Ch. Assistant Professor Svelina Gueorguieva Koleva, PhD.**

I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CANDIDACY

1. Submitted documents

For participation in the competition Ch. Assistant Professor Svelina Koleva, PhD presents all documents required by law and regulations for its application.

The documents submitted in the competition by the candidate fully comply with the requirements of the Law on Development of Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), the State Rules of Procedure for its application, and the Rules for Acquisition of

Scientific Degrees and Occupation of Academic Positions at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski.

2. Details of the candidate

Svetlina Koleva graduated from the national high school for ancient languages and cultures "Konstantin-Kyрил Philosoph" in Sofia. After that, she continued her education with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology (2004) and a Master's degree (2006) in Child and Adolescent Psychology (diagnosis and counseling) at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski. To augment her professional qualification, Svetlina Koleva also completed training for psychodrama assistant (2005 - 2011) and psychodrama therapist (2012 - 2014) at the Psychotherapy 2000 Foundation.

In the period 2015 - 2018, Svetlina Koleva was a doctoral student at the Department of General, Genetic and Experimental Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy of the Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski with supervisor Prof. Plamen Kalchev, Ph.D., where in 2018 Svetlina Koleva defended her doctoral dissertation on the topic "Triarchic model of psychopathic personality traits in adolescence" and was awarded the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in professional filed 3.2 Psychology. Since 2014, she has been a part-time assistant, and in 2016, after winning a competition, she was appointed as an Assistant Professor. Since 2018, she is the Chief Assistant Professor in Child and Adolescence Psychology in the same department, where she works until today.

She has excellent language training, having a command of English and German at the C1 level, which gives her the opportunity to participate in programs teaching in these languages.

Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Svetlina Koleva is a member of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Philosophy from 2019 to this day.

Dr. Koleva is also an active member of three professional associations: a member of the Ethics Commission of the Bulgarian Psychological Society and a member of the Executive Board of the Bulgarian Association for Psychotherapy. Since 2016, Dr. Koleva has also been a member of the Society for Child Neurology, Psychiatry and Developmental Psychology.

3. General characteristics of the applicant's scientific work and assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements

The scientific research of Ch. assistant professor Dr. Svetlina Koleva is mainly in the field of assessment of problematic behavior in adolescence, with an emphasis on sadistic tendencies

and pathological (including psychopathic) personality traits in adolescence, which fully falls within the subject of the announced competition.

A significant part of her research is the standardization of tools for psychological measurement of the above-mentioned characteristics, as well as own questionnaires developed by the candidate and Prof. Plamen Kalchev. Based on the candidate's research, practical guidelines for the application of these tools in educational institutions have also been developed.

Publications. The candidate's total publication list includes three co-authored monographs and 19 scientific articles and book chapters.

For participation in the competition ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Svetlina Koleva presented the monograph "Sadistic Tendencies in Adolescence. Part 1", published by "East-West" publishing house, as well as two other monographs, one chapter of a book in English, one article published in a Bulgarian journal, the rest are articles and studies published in Bulgarian.

Citations. Presented for this contest are 4 citations in monographs; 6 citations in peer-reviewed collective volumes and in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals. All of these exclude self-citations and are unused for previous competitions. The total number of points – 70.

In conclusion:

a) the scientific works presented for the competition meet the minimum national requirements (under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3 of ZRASRB) and respectively the additional requirements of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski for holding the academic position of Associate Professor in professional field 3.2 Psychology. The data are as follows: Under indicator B, a habilitation monograph in the field of the announced competition is presented (the monograph is co-authored with Prof. Plamen Kalchev, but a separation protocol has been presented, which confirms that the requirements of the ZRASRB and the Regulations for its implementation have been met), which brings 100 points. In indicator C, from a monograph, which is not a habilitation work (the monograph is co-authored with Prof. Plamen Kalchev, but a separation protocol is presented, which confirms that the requirements of the ZRASRB and the Regulations for its implementation have been met) and a single-authored published book based on the dissertation for the award of the educational and scientific degree "doctor", 3 extended articles, 1 article and 1 chapter of a collective monograph in English, published by the renowned international publishing house "Routledge", yield a total of 222.14 points; for indicator D concerning citations the candidate has 70 points.

b) the scientific works submitted by the candidate do not repeat those of previous procedures for acquiring a scientific title or an academic position;

c) there is no established plagiarism in the scientific papers submitted for the competition.

4. Teaching experience of the candidate

Ch. Assistant Professor Svelina Koleva, Ph.D., has extensive experience in teaching as an Assistant and Chief Assistant Professor at the Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski. She gives the seminars in "Child and Adolescent Psychology " - Bachelor's program of Psychology; "Child and Adolescent Psychology" - Master's program "Child, adolescent and school psychology (diagnostics and counseling)"; "Child Psychology and Pedagogy" for the bachelor's degree "Nurse" at the Faculty of Medicine of the Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski. Dr. Svelina Koleva is the Lecturer of the discipline "Intimate Relationships" in the Master's program "General Psychology in English".

All of these courses correspond to the topic of the announced competition.

Ch. Assistant Professor Svetlina Koleva is a demanding teacher who enjoys a good reputation among students, who knows how to explain the material well and to inspire students to excel. She regularly organizes a poster session with the psychology students she works with, and the best ones are presented at international conferences.

5. Scientific contributions of the candidate

The author's own assessment, prepared by Dr. Koleva, adequately represents her contributions.

I will discuss only a few of them here.

1 Ch. Assistant Professor Svelina Koleva, Ph.D., is the author of the most popular Bulgarian adaptation of the scale Dark Triad – short version (Short Dark Triad, SD3, Jones & Paulhus, 2014), which was made with adolescent sample of 1062 (13 and 18 years old).

2. The candidate's research on school aggression treats aggression as an effect of previously experienced violence and a consequence of a chronic stressor such as frequent conflict situations at school. Evidence suggests that aggression in adolescence is predicted by hostility, combined with impulsivity as a personality trait.

3. Personality traits have been identified that explain sadistic tendencies to a degree that would allow indirect assessment. Data are presented on the effects of pathological personality traits according to the DSM-5 dimensional model of personality pathology: negative affect, detachment, disinhibition, antagonism and psychoticism, and sadism that are assessed via correlation, regression analyses and structural modeling. The links with the Dark Triad are

studied and results demonstrate the correlation between everyday sadism and psychopathy is the strongest one. An “Alternative Dark Triad” was studied as well consisting of the dimensions honesty-humility, fearlessness, and spitefulness.

4. A Triarchic model of psychopathic personality traits in adolescence is verified, which examines the characteristics of the psychopathic personality, the differences between primary and secondary psychopathy, and the developmental pathways for their formation. In this context, the Triarchic Psychopathy Measure (Triarchic Psychopathy Measure, TriPM, Patrick, 2010) was adapted with a sample of 1061 subjects aged 13 to 18 years. The prognostic possibilities of (a) Disinhibition (20 items); (b) Boldness (20 items) and (c) Meanness (18 items). in relation to problematic behavior, attitudes, and relationships among Bulgarian adolescents are described.

5. An impressive battery of tests for personality traits that predict problematic behavior in adolescence, adapted for the Bulgarian cultural context, has been created, including (among others):

- the adaptation of five self-descriptive scales for assessing sadistic tendencies in adolescence,
- seven other instruments associated with measures of sadism and designed to assess the problem in a wider context
- Personality Questionnaire for DSM-5: Short Form (PID-5-BF) - a 25-item screening tool for assessing pathological personality traits in accordance with the dimensional approach to personality disorders in DSM-5.

II. CONCLUSION

Ch. Assistant Prof. Svelina Koleva, PhD, is an established specialist in the field of Child and Adolescent Psychology. She enjoys the respect and appreciation of the academic community. With her scientific works, she made significant contributions to the field of psychological theory and practice.

The topics of her publications is in full accordance with the subject of the announced competition. The scientific accomplishments of the candidate fully satisfy the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for its Application, as well as the relevant Regulations of the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" to acquire the academic position of "Associate Professor" and there is no plagiarism detected in her works.

Based on the above, I give my positive evaluation of her candidacy and am fully convinced that the scientific jury has all necessary reasons to propose to the competent body for

candidate election - the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Philosophy at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski - to elect Ch. Assistant Professor Svelina Gueorguieva Koleva, PhD in the academic position of Associate Professor, in the professional field 3.2 Psychology (Child and Adolescent Psychology).

July 26, 2023

Signature:

Prof. Irina Zinovieva, DSc