

(English translation)

SCIENTIFIC JURY MEMBER'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 65/16.08.2019 and on the Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski web page

By Prof. Irina Zinovieva, Dr. Sc., Ph.D.

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Faculty of Philosophy, Department of Psychology, professional field 3.2 Psychology in her capacity of Scientific Jury Member following Order# RD 38-605/11.10.2019 of the Rector of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"

1. General issues

Two candidates have applied for participation in the competition: Ch. Asst. Prof. Kamelia Doncheva Hancheva, PhD, from Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and Ch. Asst. Prof. Manol Nikolov Manolov, PhD, from Veliko Turnovo University "St. St. Cyril and Methodius".

The candidate Ch. Asst. Prof. Kamelia Hancheva, Ph.D., has submitted documents showing that she is doctor of psychology from 01.10.2013, professional field 3.2 Psychology (life span and pedagogical psychology), defended at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" with a dissertation "Defense mechanisms and coping strategies of parents and adaptive functioning of the child". Dr. Hancheva was an assistant and senior assistant professor in the Department of general, experimental and developmental psychology, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" (1999 - 2005), since 2005 she is a chief assistant professor in the same department. She teaches 15 courses in the undergraduate and three master's programs at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", in Bulgarian and in English - all in the field of the current competition. In the period 2013 - 2018 she was a part-time lecturer at the International Psychoanalytic University - Berlin, (IPU-Berlin), Germany, where she gave courses in developmental psychology and social trauma for Master's programs.

The candidate Ch. Asst. Prof. Manol Manolov, Ph.D., presented documents showing that he is a doctor (social psychology) with a dissertation "Interaction models for reducing the social exclusion of non-standard groups", defended on June 28, 2018 at the University of Veliko

Turnovo “St. St. Cyril and Methodius”. Dr. Manolov's academic career includes a teaching assistant position from February 2017 - until July 2019 and chief assistant professor from July 2019 to the present at Veliko Turnovo University “St. St. Cyril and Methodius”. He has held a number of other positions in various institutions that are not relevant to this competition.

In this way, both candidates fulfill the preconditions for participation in the competition in terms of length of service and the holding of a doctorate, in accordance with the Law for Development of the Academics in the Republic of Bulgaria) and accordingly to the additional requirements of Sofia University „St. Kliment Ohridski” for the occupation of the academic position of associate professor laid out in the Rules and conditions for the awarding of academic degrees and occupation of academic positions at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, Art. 105, (1) item 1 and item 2. It is noteworthy, however, that Dr. Hancheva's academic experience is much longer (over 19 years) than that of Dr. Manolov (2 years and 9 months). She also has international experience in teaching subjects in the field of current competition.

2. Habilitation monograph

The candidate Ch. Asst. Prof. Kamelia Hancheva, PhD, presented a habilitation work in the form of a monograph entitled “Mentalization and early stages of socio-emotional development”. This work fulfills all the requirements for a monograph laid out in the law and completely matches the subject of the announced competition, whereby the candidate Ch. Asst. Prof. Kamelia Hancheva, PhD, fulfills the requirements of the Rules and conditions for awarding of academic degrees and occupation of academic positions at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, Art. 105, (1) item 3, which states that applicants should "have submitted a published monograph or equivalent publications in specialized scientific editions in the field of competition.... not repeating those submitted for the doctorate degree."

Ch. Asst. Prof. Manolov, Ph.D., presented as a habilitation work a monograph titled “Self-Discrimination”. Although by formal criteria, this does not contradict the definition of monograph work (having more than 100 pages and scientific peer review), upon a thorough review of the text it is clear that this text does not fit the theme of the competition. This is a work in the field of social and ethno-psychology. Much of the analysis in this work is based on texts by Bulgarian Renaissance authors (eg Zahari Stoyanov), as well as historical notes on the process of socialization of the Bulgarian people at the time of Christianity and the creation of

Slavic alphabet, or the ideas of foreign peoples for the Bulgarians in the Middle Ages. Obviously, these topics have nothing to do with the psychology competition in childhood and adolescence. Therefore, this work does not constitute habilitation work in the field of competition.

I will now examine the option for "equivalent publications in specialized scientific editions in the field of competition". The publications submitted for the competition contain two other monographs. One was presented with a protocol for the division of authorship, which stated that the candidate Dr. Manolov authored half of this work. This section covers the 100 pages required by law to be recognized as a monograph by formal criteria, but it is not clear which parts belong to Dr. Manolov, that they can be analysed for the purpose of the present competition. In the second co-authored monograph, the chapters are clearly distinguished, but they do not represent a complete finished work on the topic of the competition; moreover, chapter four explicitly states (in the title) that it concerns "young people (20-25 years)". Thus, this monograph also does not fulfill the requirement of the aforementioned part of the Rules of the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" for occupation of academic positions.

The other works submitted for the competition do not offer sufficient publications in specialized scientific editions that are equivalent to a monograph on the topic of the competition.

From this stand point, the candidate Ch. Asst. Prof. Manol Manolov, PhD, does not fulfill the requirements of the Rules and conditions for awarding of academic degrees and occupation of academic positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Art. 105, (1) item 3, which states that applicants should "have submitted a published monograph or equivalent publications in specialized scientific editions in the field of competition... not repeating those submitted for the doctorate degree."

That is to say that the applicant cannot continue his participation in the competition.

However, out of consideration for this colleague's work, I will also describe his candidacy in detail.

3. Fulfillment of the minimum national requirements for occupation of the academic position of Associate Professor

Information on the applicant Ch. Asst. Prof., Kamelia Hancheva, PhD

Dr. Kamelia Hancheva presented works, which shows that she fully complies with the minimum national requirements (Article 2b, (2) and (3) of the Law for Development of the

Academics in the Republic of Bulgaria, published in the Bylaws (Pravilnik) for implementation of the Law for Development of the Academics in the Republic of Bulgaria for the scientific field 3.2 Psychology and accordingly to the additional requirements of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" for the occupation of the academic position of associate professor in the professional field 3.2..Psychology (Child and Adolescent psychology).

In particular: she has accumulated the necessary 150 points for Index1, Index2, and Index3 from the ABV group by possessing the title Doctor (50 points) and having presented a monograph in the field of the completion equivalent to 100 points.

Requirement for number and quality of publications for an associate professor according to group D (P5 to P10) of the Bylaws (Pravilnik) for implementation of the Law for Development of the Academics in the Republic of Bulgaria (amend. SG 15/02/2019, Table 2, District 3.2.) is that the applicant should acquire no less than 200 points. According to the information provided, the applicant claims a total of 217,6 points for her scientific articles and book chapters, the points for which are correctly calculated, both for each publication individually and for the total amount.

Applicants for associate professorship are also required to submit 50 points of citations to their publications. They are classified in Group E (P11) of the Bylaws. The enclosed table shows that the applicant is claiming 65 points for 3 citations in SCOPUS, which yield 45 points, as well as two citations in monographs, each equals to 10 points, totaling 65 point for citations. They are correctly calculated and sufficient in terms of the minimum national requirements. My search in SCOPUS confirmed the quotations stated by the applicant.

Information on the applicant Ch. Asst. Prof., Manol Manolov, PhD

Dr. Manolov has accumulated the necessary 50 points for Index1, from the ABV group by possessing the title Doctor (50 points), but the presented habilitation work meets the requirements of the law but does not meet the additional requirements of the Rules on the terms and conditions for acquisition of academic degrees and occupation of academic positions at Sofia University „St. Kliment Ohridski”. Whether the applicant meets the national minimum requirements for this item is a controversial issue.

According to the information provided, the applicant claims a total of 257,5 points for his two co-authored monographs, scientific articles and book chapters. In his self-assessment on these indicators, Dr. Manolov stated two articles as indexed in Web of Science. When searching Web of Science, which I did for the purposes of this competition, the name of Manol Nikolov Manolov does not appear. The reason is that Psychology, where this articles are

published, is an online journal, which belongs to the Scientific Research, An Academic Publisher and is not indexed by Web of Science, as can be seen from its own page <https://www.scirp.org/journal/PSYCH/>. It lists the databases in which this journal is indexed: neither Web of Science nor SCOPUS is indicated. For these reasons, Ch. Asst. Prof. Dr. Manolov cannot receive 30/n points for both articles (one single- and one co-authored with three colleagues) in the respective journal, but 10/n as for a peer-reviewed journal. A citation in the same journal receives 5 points, not 15 points. When recalculating the points under indicator G, the correct number of points is 232.5, which meets the requirements of the law for this part.

The self-evaluation on indicator D for his citations, Ch. Asst. Prof. Dr. Manolov has made a mistake - the first two of the mentioned citations are identical, but for the first one he requires 15 points and for second - 5. The correct calculation is 5 points, because the citation is in the journal Psychology, which was discussed above. The correct total calculation for the citations is 55 points, which is sufficient.

4. Publications

In the full reference list of her scientific works, Ch. Asst. Prof. Kamelia Hancheva, PhD, described a total of 32 entries, of which one monograph, the second monograph representing the doctoral dissertation, five book chapters in a collective monograph published by the prestigious international publishing house Routledge. In this collective monograph, Ch. Asst. Prof. Kamelia Hancheva is one of the editors, which is a remarkable achievement. Another 15 articles and book chapters (in peer-reviewed journals or books) and 8 published abstracts from congresses and conferences complete the full list of publications, not counting the translations editing. Only four of them are not directly within the scope of the announced competition. Many of these publications are in English, in prestigious publications.

For the announced competition, Dr. Hancheva presented 14 publications: one monograph (habilitation work), a second monograph representing a doctoral dissertation, four book chapters in collective monographs, published by the prestigious international publishing house Routledge, as well as 8 articles and chapters in peer-reviewed journals or in edited volumes. With the exception of four, all of these publications fall directly into the field of the competition.

The full reference list of the scientific works of Ch. Asst. Prof. Dr. Manol Manolov contains a single-authored monograph, two co-authored monographs, and 19 other publications that include articles, book chapters, and conference presentations. There are English-language

publications, two of them (a single-authored and one co-authored) in the international journal Psychology discussed above.

For participation in the competition Dr. Manol Manolov has presented 8 publications – the single-authored monograph, two co-authored monographs, and 5 other publications that include 4 articles and one part of a book. Only few of those fall into the field of Psychology of childhood and adolescence.

5. Scientific research

Scientific research by Ch. Asst. Prof. Dr. Kamelia Hancheva

Scientific achievements

At the theoretical level: The presented monographs discuss the historical roots and contemporary theoretical conceptualizations of child development, integrating ideas of relational psychoanalysis, attachment theory, and cognitive neuroscience. Synthesis of ideas is based on rich historical overview. It reveals a good knowledge of contemporary theoretical achievements used as a foundation for successful bridging of concepts and ideas of different paradigms. The author delves into critical analysis of strengths and weaknesses in the explanatory possibilities of each of the presented theories. This review contextualises the emerging new paradigm - the theory of mentalization - and convincingly presents it as a theoretical framework with substantial explanatory potential. The synthesis of ideas adds explanatory power to the attained model of early development. A particular contribution of the candidate's publications is the good knowledge and integration of the Western psychoanalytic tradition to the ideas of the Russian school and especially the Lev Vygotsky's theory of development as culture-and-history-embedded. The approach advanced by Dr Hancheva views mental development as a complex process of intra-psychic dynamics in which cultural and historical processes are intertwined.

Bridging theoretical science with applied research and consulting: First, monographs, articles and studies offer a creative approach to translating of psychoanalytic concepts into psychometric constructs. Second, Dr. Hancheva has successfully adapted a number of psychometrics instruments for children into the Bulgarian language and developed research design for conducting consultative therapeutic processes with minors. Pilot studies offer encouraging evaluation on the effectiveness of some proposed programs with high social impact (early childhood development and problem prevention in at-risk groups and communities).

Science in service to society: Dr. Hancheva focuses on social trauma at individual, family and societal level. Main topics such as psychopathology in early development, behavioral problems in adolescence, domestic violence and other deviations are analyzed in socio-historical context. To this dual approach to trauma and mental development she adds the transgenerational perspective, which allows to contextualize the problems of development in the family system and in different types of communities. Applying trauma knowledge to current issues such as migration, integration of children and adolescents with different socio-cultural backgrounds offers evidence-based solutions for social problems.

Projects

Dr. Kamelia Hancheva is an active participant in scientific projects. She is a member of a team of nine projects: two international pan-European research networks on 1) family support and 2) treatment of adolescents and young people with mental disabilities - both within the prestigious European Cooperation in Science and Technology program (COST) of the European Commission, three at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and four others at the International Psychoanalytic University - Berlin, funded by the German Academic Exchange Fund.

Research by Ch. Asst. Prof. Dr. Manol Manolov

Scientific achievements

I do not find scientific achievements in the research by Ch. Asst. Prof. Dr. Manol Manolov that fall into the field of the competition – child and adolescent psychology. On the other hand, one should bear in mind that the work of this candidate falls mainly in the field of social psychology. Such scientific production does not match the subject of the competition and will not be discussed.

Projects

Dr. Manolov has been the scientific coordinator of a NSF project for young researchers on „Conceptualizing forms of social inheritance in children from 3 to 8 years old”. He has done several other projects concerning children, for which there is no information that they have scientific substance.

Plagiarism

No evidence of plagiarism was observed in either candidate's work.

6. Academic teaching experience

The candidate Dr. Kamelia Hancheva, has an impressive teaching activity, in which university courses in the field of child psychology are a key element. She teaches a number of courses at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” in bachelor's and master's degree programmes, in Bulgarian and in English. She has four years of international teaching experience - a part-time lecturer at the International Psychoanalytic University - Berlin, (IPU-Berlin), Germany, where he gives courses in developmental psychology and social trauma for master’s programs.

The candidate Ch. Asst. Prof. Dr. Manol Manolov has the minimum necessary academic experience, has led a course of seminars for students in child and adolescent psychology, all the rest is outside the scope of the current competition. This teaching experience is not sufficient to cover the university courses, mainly lectures, in Bulgarian and English, for which the current competition has been announced. In addition, this applicant has no experience in teaching in English.

Conclusion

Ch. Asst. Prof., Dr. Kamelia Doncheva Hancheva meets all the requirements of the Law and the regulations for its implementation both at the country level and at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”. She has many years of experience in a prestigious academic institution, has created and conducted for years some of the lecture courses that are the subject of this competition. Her scholarly work is distinguished by her depth and consistency, her works are visible to the international community, she has remarkable achievements, including the editorship of an edited volume at the prestigious international publishing house Routledge. She has been involved in numerous scientific projects, including international ones, two of which pan-european, funded by the European Commission. This is a promising scholar, an interesting and respected academic teacher, a responsive and responsible colleague.

All this gives me reason to support the candidacy of Ch. Asst. Prof. Kamelia Doncheva Hancheva, PhD, for the announced position of an Associate Professor in the professional field

3.2 Psychology (Psychology of childhood and adolescence) at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski ”.

Ch. Asst. Prof. Manol Manolov, Ph.D., does not meet the requirement for submission of a habilitation work in the field of the current competition or other equivalent publications in this field. He has no experience required to teach lecture courses in the field of this competition. For these reasons, he is not a suitable candidate for the announced competition for associate professor in psychology (psychology of childhood and adolescence) at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”.

Sofia,

December, 19th, 2019

Scientific Jury Member:

Prof. Irina Zinovieva, Dr. Sc., Ph.D.