

Statement

By Assoc. Prof. Milena Stefanova, Doctor Habil, Member of the Scientific Jury, determined by order of the Rector of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" № RAO 38 / 236 from 21.05.2019

For a competition for a professor in the professional field 3.3. Political Science (Political Science - Political Systems and Institutions) SG N 25/26.03.2019 with the sole candidate Assoc. Prof. Mariya Andonova Pirgova, Doctor Habil.

According to Art. 3, para. 3 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, "Evaluation of the dissertation work and of the candidates for the academic positions" Chief Assistant ", " Assistant Professor "and" Professor "shall be carried out only for the persons who meet the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, paragraphs 2 and 3, respectively, of the requirements of Article 2b, paragraph 5. "According to Article 4 of the same law, the assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements shall be carried out by the scientific jury.

The requirements for occupying the academic position of "professor" are defined in Art. 29 of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

According to para. 1, item 1 - Acquired the PhD - the candidate fulfills the condition.

According to para. 1, item 2 - The candidate has held the academic position of associate professor for more than two years, thus meeting the requirements of the law.

According to para. 1, item 3 requires submission of a monographic work or equivalent publications in specialized scientific editions, which do not repeat the ones submitted for the acquisition of the PhD degree, for the degree of Doctor of Science and for the occupation of the academic position of Assoc. Professor. For her participation in the competition, Assoc. Prof. Maria Pirgova presented a monograph "Problem Fields in Political Science", S., 2018, 256 pages. The work has not been submitted for participation in another procedure for acquiring a scientific degree or academic position. The members of the jury are obliged to decide whether the submitted work meets the requirements of the law on monograph defined in the additional provisions of law §1, item 10, namely: "Monograph" is a published scientific publication containing a complete and comprehensive study of a particular subject, problem or

personality, written by one or more authors, adhering to the same view. A monograph is a scientific work that does not replicate or summarize existing knowledge, which has a scientific editor and / or scientific reviewers, has an ISBN and is in a volume of at least 100 standard pages with 1800 characters per page. It contains detailed content, a comprehensive bibliography, with references to other scientific papers". The submitted publication was written by one author, has a scientific editor and scientific reviewers, has ISBN, volume exceeds 100 pages, has extensive content, bibliography and references to other scientific works. It remains to be considered whether this work has a specific a subject that has been thoroughly researched and whether it is repeated or summarized acquires existing knowledge. In the introduction to the evaluation paper presented, Assoc. Prof. Pirgova informs us that this is a monograph based on her work "On Basic Topics in Contemporary Political Science" (p.10), published in 2013. The author claims that the rework and additions are driven by her teaching experience. The question naturally arises as to the comparison of the two publications. The review of the publications of Assoc. Prof. Pirgova takes the evaluator to the edition Pirgova, M., "Fundamentals of Political Science, S., IM" St. Kliment Ohridski ", 2013, 213 pages, which is indicated in the reference for compliance with the minimum requirements under Art. 2b of the law, which the applicant submitted as a publication that was not presented as a major habilitation work. Comparison of the two publications shows more than 95% agreement of the text. Therefore, the candidate submits as the main monograph for the competition issued in 2018, a text published in 2013, but under a different title. The difference between the two publications is that in the 2013 edition, in the introduction it is defined as a textbook, and in 2018 it has already been defined as a monograph. In addition, there are slight cosmetic revisions to some of the titles in the content, after each chapter conclusions are drawn, and the 2018 literature is referenced to each chapter. A meaningful reading of the publication does not reveal any significant differences in the interpretation and study of the problems. For the evaluator, it remains a huge mystery how to treat the presented text - as a textbook, as the text actually is, or as a monograph designed to do a thorough study of a particular subject. Even if we imagine that the subject of the study is political science as a science (not defined by the author), we cannot accept that the submitted text meets these requirements. An important point is the requirement of the law that the monograph should not repeat already known and existing knowledge. Even assuming that all facts, conclusions, interpretations and postulates in the publication are the work of the author (and we cannot accept this, as individual chapters are pure revision of regulations, including the Constitution of the Republic of Bulgaria - see for example Chapter XVI Bulgarian Constitutional Model and others are indisputable synthesis of

existing knowledge), the fact that the text repeats more than 95% of the author's 2013 publication means that it repeats already known knowledge. By this parameter, the submitted publication does not meet the requirements of the law on monographic work. I leave without comment the fact that, in practice, the same text is used in the reference for the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements and points are counted once as a monograph, for participation in a procedure for a professor, and once again as a monograph not submitted for participation in another procedure. The various titles of the editions make this possible at first reading.

The law allows to equate to other monographs submitted for participation in the competition publications of the author. For her participation in the competition, Assoc. Prof. M. Pirgova presented 6 more publications, one of which, in co-authorship with Boris Popivanov, Parliament as the subject of contemporary Bulgarian foreign policy. Constitutional and institutional framework. In: Genov, G. & A. Georgiev (Eds.) Decades of Transition and Change. Foreign Policy and Security Issues. S., UNWE Publishing House, 2013, 91-105. ISBN 978-954-644-569-8, for which a separation protocol is used to determine the contribution of the two authors as equivalent. Therefore, the total volume of the publication is divided into two - 7 pages per author. The other 5 publications are 76 pages in total.

The publications presented are not a single subject, subject or personality, but address different problematic areas of political science. In this respect, they do not qualify for the monograph.

Therefore, neither in volume nor in content do they meet the requirements of the law on monographs and cannot be equated with one.

The facts thus established allow me to conclude that Assoc. Prof. Maria Pirgova, a candidate for participation in a competition for professor in the field of science 3.3. Political Science (Political Science - Political Systems and Institutions) does not meet the requirements of Art. 29, para 1, item 3 of the Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and therefore in connection with Art. 3, para. 3 of the same law the candidate is not subject to further evaluation.

Sofia, August 3, 2019

Assoc. Prof. Milena Stefanova, Doctor Habil