

EXPERT OPINION

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yulia Yordanova Simeonova

Member of the scientific jury appointed by Rector's Order ПД-38-220 / 03.05.2022
Re: Competition for the Position of Associate Professor in Higher Education Field 1.
Pedagogical Sciences, Professional Field 1.3. Pedagogy of ... Teaching (Methodology of
History Teaching), announced in State Gazette Issue 21 / 15.03.2022,
for the needs of the Faculty of History of St. Kliment Ohridski University, Sofia

Competition Details

Candidate in the competition is Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Krasimir Sashkov Krastev from the Department of Archival Science and Methodology of History Teaching at the Faculty of History of St. Kliment Ohridski University, Sofia. The competition is held in accordance with the requirements of the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act as well as the Regulations on the terms and conditions for obtaining scientific degrees and holding academic positions at St. Kliment Ohridski University, Sofia. No violations have been found.

According to the normative provisions, the candidate meets and exceeds the minimum national requirements under Article 2b, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act for the academic position of Associate Professor in Professional Field 1.3. Pedagogy of ... Teaching (Methodology of History Teaching), which can be seen from the references enclosed, showing a total of 1,835 points representing the groups of indicators A, B, D, E, with required 400 points.

Candidate's Details

Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Krasimir Krastev is a lecturer at the Faculty of History of St. Kliment Ohridski University, Sofia. His research interests are in the field of methodology of history teaching and medieval Bulgarian history. He graduated in History and Geography (1999–2003) and Archaeology (2001–2005) and completed the *Bulgarian Middle Ages and Renaissance of the 7th - 19th Centuries* Master's program (2003–2005). In 2009, he acquired the educational and scientific degree of Doctor of History. Since 2013, he has been a lecturer in Methodology of History Teaching at the Faculty of History of St. Kliment Ohridski University, Sofia.

The teaching activity of Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Krasimir Krastev - candidate for holding the academic position of Associate Professor - is in line with the parameters of the announced competition and is aimed at the theoretical and practical training of students. The professional biography of the candidate proves purposefulness in the academic growth related to the personal improvement and expansion of both his scientific interests as well as teaching and expert activities.

Description and Assessment of Scientific Papers

In the competition for the position of Associate Professor, Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Krasimir Krastev participates with 23 scientific publications. They are completely independent and distributed as follows: 2 monographs, 2 studies, and 19 articles, 4 of which in the Web of Science. The presented publications correspond to the profile of the announced competition for the academic position of Associate Professor, and no elements of plagiarism have been found in them. The author correctly cited the literature used as the basis for his research.

The habilitation thesis of Kr. Krastev is the *History Lessons and the Methods of Active Learning* monograph published in 2022 by the Bulgarian Historical Heritage Foundation, with a total volume of 565 pages. The book consists of an introduction, two chapters, appendices, a conclusion (research results), literature, and a list of the abbreviations. The monograph views the topical issue of modern understanding of the organization of history teaching based on activity by developing critical thinking in students. It fully corresponds to the scientific profile of the announced competition and is relevant for the modern historical education.

The other publications with which Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Krasimir Krastev participates in the competition complement the idea of him as a specialist not only in methodology of history teaching, but also as a professional in the field of medieval history, and can be divided into two thematic groups: Methods of History Teaching and Bulgarian Middle Ages.

The first group includes 8 publications (1 study and 7 articles) in which the author views and explores important aspects related to the development of skills for chronological orientation (Appendix 3), the application of active methods and didactic games in history teaching (Appendices 5, 6, 7, 13), and an analysis of separate thematic accents from the educational content of history textbooks (Appendices 8, 17, 20).

The second thematic group, i.e., Bulgarian Middle Ages, includes the rest of the publications with which Dr. Krastev participates in the competition, and which are sufficient

reasons for me to assess the candidate as one of our serious researchers of that period of the Bulgarian history.

Scientific and Scientific-Applied Contributions of the Candidate

I confirm the contributions of Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Krastev regarding the publications with which he participates in the competition, including those related to research in the field of Bulgarian medieval history. I accept the report he has prepared showing both his scientific-theoretical and applied contributions as well-founded and substantiated.

Conclusion

The review of the documents and materials as well as of the scientific production presented by Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Krasimir Sashkov Krastev as a candidate in the competition for the position of Associate Professor shows that the requirements of the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act and the Regulations for its implementation have been met. I am convinced that there are all grounds for Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Krasimir Sashkov Krastev **to be awarded the degree of Associate Professor** in Higher Education Field 1. Pedagogical Sciences, Professional Field 1.3. Pedagogy of ... Teaching (Methodology of History Teaching) for the needs of the Faculty of History of St. Kliment Ohridski University, Sofia, and I am happy to give my **positive assessment**.

Date: 10.06.2022

Jury Member:

(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yulia Simeonova)