

OPINION

From: Prof. Venka Petrova Kuteva - Tsvetkova, "St. Cyril and St. Methodius" University of Veliko Tarnovo", professor in professional field 1.2. Pedagogy.

Subject: competition for the academic position of "professor" in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.2. Pedagogy (Civic Education, Anti-Corruption Education), announced in the State Gazette, issue 22 / 16.03.2021 for the needs of the Department of Social Work, Faculty of Pedagogy, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

This opinion is prepared on the basis of order RD-38-181 of 07.04.2021 of the Rector of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and a decision from the first meeting of the scientific jury.

1. Information about the candidate

The only candidate for the announced position is Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lilyana Ivanova Strakova. She holds the teaching position of "Associate Professor" at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Pedagogy (FP), Department of Social Work, currently Dean of the FP. The set of materials presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lilyana Strakova is in accordance with the Regulations on the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and includes all necessary documents. The candidate has signed a declaration of authenticity of data submitted by her.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lilyana Strakova was born on October 12, 1958 in the town of Bansko, Blagoevgrad district. The candidate has worked as a chief assistant from 1993 to 2000, and since 2000 she has been working as an associate professor at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", thus covering the requirement of Art. 29 para. (1) item 2 of the Law for Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. Since 1990 he has a scientific degree "candidate of sciences", equated to ONS "doctor", thus covering the requirement of art. 29 para. (1) item 1 of. She worked as an assistant at the University of National and World Economy from 1991 to 1993, and she was a high school teacher at schools №22 and №135 in Sofia from 1989 to 1991.

She graduated from the Polytechnic High School "VI. Poptomov", Razlog. From 1976 to 1981 she was a student at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and obtained a degree (equated to) "master" in pedagogy. Her PhD degree in the field of 1.2. Pedagogy (Theory of education and didactics), obtained in 1990. She studied also at Jules Verne University in Amiens (2010) and at Humboldt University in Berlin (2008).

She has excellent skills for cooperation, communication and teamwork, which combines mediation skills and leadership competencies. She also uses Microsoft Office suite. She has good language skills in Russian and French.

Since 2010, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Strakova has been the head of the Center for Civic Education. She was the head of the Department of Social Work (2007-2014). Since 2010 she has been the Head of the Master's Program "Modern educational

technologies" with the acquisition of professional qualification "teacher". She is a member of the Editorial Board of the Yearbook of Sofia University (book Pedagogy) and of the Editorial Board of the electronic magazine on Social Work, FP of Sofia University. Since 2012 she is a member of the Coordination Council of the Center for Human Resources Development and Regional Initiatives at the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy.

The educational and pedagogical activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Strakova includes lectures in bachelor's degree and master's degree programmes. According to a reference from the Faculty of Pedagogy, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Strakova teaches the following disciplines: Civic education and upbringing (compulsory, bachelor); Civic education (compulsory, bachelor); Professional values and norms in SR (compulsory, bachelor); Educational and upbringing values in the educational content (compulsory, master's degree); Sexological and pedagogical problems in DUV (elective, bachelor); Anti-corruption education (elective, bachelor); Work with children with aggressive behavior (elective, master); The interaction family - school (elective, master); Methods for increasing the efficiency of the teacher as a class teacher (elective, master) and Entrepreneurship in education (elective, master) with a total workload of 730 hours, reduced to exercises, which fulfills the requirement of Art. 29 para. (5) of the Law for Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

2. Scientometric indicators

- For group of indicators "A" 50 points of available dissertation work are required, which is registered in NACID as "Moral development of students in I-III grade"

<https://ras.nacid.bg/dissertation-preview/36431>

- 100 points are required for group of indicators "B". They are covered by a monograph (not yet registered in COBISS). The paper body presented in electronic format corresponds to the design of a monograph, according to the requirements of the Law for Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

- The total number of points presented by group of indicators "D" is 517.5 points, compared to the required 200. Three publications are presented for indicator "G6", with a total contribution of 90 points. According to the "G7" indicator, 24 publications are presented, with a total contribution of 240 points. According to indicator "G9", 9 publications are presented with a total contribution of 127.5 points. According to indicator "G10", 3 publications are presented with a total contribution of 60 points.

- The total number of points presented by group of indicators "E" is 245 points, with 100 required. Under indicator "D11" are presented 5 citations with a total contribution of 75 points. Indicator "D12" presents 13 citations with a total contribution of 130 points. Indicator "D13" presents 8 citations with a total contribution of 40 points.

- The total number of points presented for group of indicators "E" is 540 points, with the required 100. According to indicator "E15" is presented 1 doctoral student Nadezhda Yordanova Harizanova with a contribution of 50 points, registered in NACID with

<https://ras.nacid.bg/dissertation-preview/42999>

Indicator "E16" presents 6 national projects with a total contribution of 90 points. According to the "E17" indicator, 4 international projects are presented with a total contribution of 80 points. Indicator "E18" describes 10 projects led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Strakova with a total contribution of 300 points. According to the "E20" indicator, 1 textbook is presented with a contribution of 10 points. According to indicator "E21", 1 textbook with a contribution of 20 points is presented.

3. Structure of the presented materials

The presented materials include monographs, studies and articles in the following distribution of contribution points by years (Figure 1). There are no significant ups and downs except for the expected activity on the eve of the event.

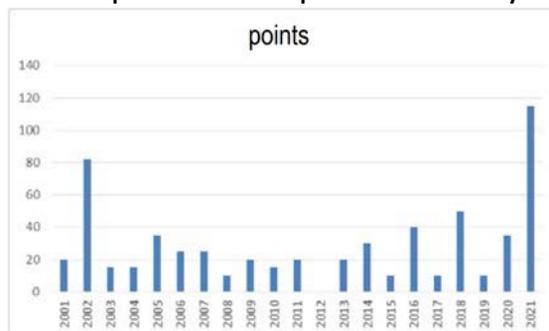


Figure 1. Distribution of point publications by years.

The three publications indexed in the most prestigious database - Web of Science - make a particularly pleasant impression.

The distribution of contribution points by citations is relatively even with the expected rise in recent years (Figure 2). Here, again, the citations in five publications indexed in Web of Science or SCOPUS make a particularly pleasant impression.

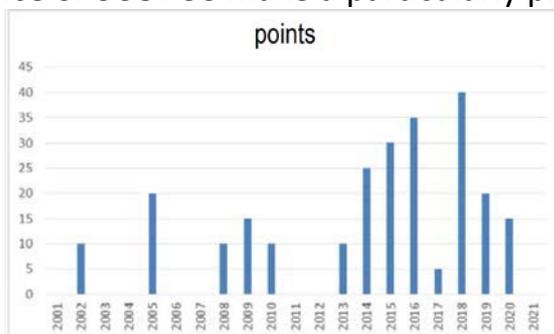


Figure 2. Distribution of citations-points by years.

The activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Strakova in the group of indicators "E" is characterized by diversity, including one doctoral student under her guidance and

several textbooks at the university level. However, the intensive project activity is particularly impressive (Figure 3).

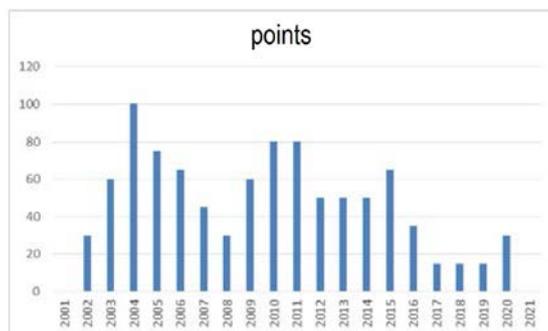


Figure 3. Distribution of project points by years.

In Figure 3, multi-annual projects are reported for each year of its duration. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Strakova has been the leader of nine national projects. Such an intensive and diverse project activity, presents Assoc. Prof. Dr. Strakova not only as an original author, but also as a dedicated organizer of science. This activity is gaining more and more prestige and public value in the face of the educational policy of the Republic of Bulgaria.

4. Contributions

I agree in general with the contributions of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Strakova, as described in the relevant material, allowing myself minor reductions and editing in their listing below in this section.

Referred to the theory of civic and anti-corruption education, the contributions are divided into specific groups.

1) In the direction of civic education.

1.1) Detailing and enrichment of the competence model of the civic formation of students in the process of civic education.

1.2) Substantiation of the value approach and construction of a value model of civic education based on known models from ancient Greece, Rome, the Enlightenment and the Bulgarian historical tradition.

1.3) Research of the peculiarities of the model of civic education in the current school and public environment.

1.4) Creating models of civic education, aimed at: political and legal aspects; the link between ordinary learning and civic education; cultural environment and education in entrepreneurship.

1.5) Systematization of typical reasons for children dropping out of school.

1.6) Creation of curricula in civic and anti-corruption education for students from Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

1.7) Exploring the link between anti-discrimination and civic education.

- 2) Creation of tools and implementation of empirical research on:
 - 2.1) The moral development of students.
 - 2.2) The dynamics of civic values in the period of schooling.
 - 2.3) Reasons for children dropping out of school.
 - 2.4) Training and education in entrepreneurial spirit.
 - 2.5) The value development of young people in the context of health and sex education.
- 3) Research in the field of social inclusion, social integration and improving the quality of life of vulnerable social groups.
 - 3.1) Formation of the goals of training in social activities.
 - 3.2) Establishing the value approach in social work.
 - 3.3) Revealing the dynamics of values in social policy and social work.
- 4) Research with empirical research in the field of anti-corruption education, tested in school practice and in student education.
 - 4.1) Constructing frequently asked questions and answers related to corruption and measures to reduce it in an educational context.
 - 4.2) Disclosure of the role and functions of the academic ombudsman.
 - 4.3) Revealing the need for anti-corruption education of students in the context of civic education and developing a relevant curriculum on a modular basis.

Here it is appropriate to note the merits of the monograph "Civic Values and Civic Education", Sofia, 2021, the Publishing House of "St. Kliment Ohridski", presented as a habilitation thesis. The content includes a detailed historical background and presentation of the current state of affairs. The style is concise, but at the same time fascinating and very informative. In her quest to be useful, the author has achieved a remarkable level of integrity in the exposition, which gives me reason to consider writing this monograph for a specific scientific contribution.

5. Critical notes

The review of the materials presented did not show any weaknesses that deserve to be noted and discussed.

6. Conclusion

The facts and circumstances set forth so far give me certain grounds to accept, that the candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lilyana Ivanova Strakova meets the requirements of the Law for Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, The Regulations for its application and the Regulations for the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

Based on the academic assets indicated in the opinion, I give a convincing positive assessment of the discussed candidacy and recommend to the esteemed scientific jury to propose to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Pedagogy of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" to elect Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lilyana Ivanova Strakova to the academic position "Professor" in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.2. Pedagogy.

July 26, 2021
Veliko Tarnovo

Prof. Dr. Habil Venka Kuteva – Tsvetkova
Signature: _____ P _____