

SOFIA UNIVERSITY "ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI"

OPINION

by

Prof. Dr. Galina Nikolova Shamonina

Varna Free University "Chernorizets Hrabar"

for

the thesis of

Anatoli Vasilev Deshev

on the topic

**"A Lingua-Didactic model for Multilingual Learning
(based on the Lebanese education and language policy)",**

submitted for the acquisition of educational and scientific degree "Doctor"

in the professional field: 1.3. Pedagogy of training in ...

(Foreign Language Teaching Methodology - English)

Grounds for submitting the opinion:

Participation in the Scientific Committee for the thesis defense, according to

Order No. RD 38-590 / 11.10.2019 of the Rector of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

София

2019 г.

Anatoli Vassilev Deshev graduated with a major in Greek Philology (Master's Degree) from Vassil Levski University (Veliko Tarnovo) in 2002. From 2003 to 2005 he studied Public Administration and International Law at the Center for Postgraduate Qualification at the University of National and World Economy (Sofia). From 2012 to 2013 he studied at the College of Middle Eastern Sciences (Sana'a, R Yemen). In 2018 he was enrolled as a doctoral student at the Department of Methodology of Foreign Languages at the Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

1. Brief description of the dissertation presented.

The title of the dissertation is "Lingua-Didactic Model for Multilingual Learning (Based on the Lebanese Education and Language Policy)". It is presented in a volume of 304 pages, structured in an introduction, four chapters, a conclusion, contribution points and a bibliography. It also contains a list of the author's publications.

The **introduction** sets out the general concept of the dissertation, which develops a lingua-didactic model for multilingual learning based on the Lebanese education and language policy. The study focuses on the education sector in Lebanon (primary, elementary and secondary) as the place where language teaching and learning is most prevalent. Good language policies cultivate increased tolerance and openness in any society. In my opinion, the proposed dissertation research is an up-to-date academic work with an interesting scientific and applied profile provoking experimentation.

The **object of the research** is to study the nature, specifics, functions and forms of multilingual learning. The **subject** of the research is the contemporary Lebanese model for multilingual learning. The **purpose and tasks** are relevantly formulated and related to the topic of the thesis. The **research hypothesis** is clearly defined as an assumption that the analysis of the contemporary Lebanese educational and linguistic policy allows for the creation of an effective lingua-didactic model for multilingual learning with the potential to transfer good practices to other education systems.

Chapter One, devoted to the theoretical foundations of the study, gives the positive impression that A. Deshev is well versed in the terminology and scientific concepts associated with the analysis of the topic he is exploring. The theoretical framework of the research is convincingly presented: an overview of the current state and contemporary conceptions of different scientists is made. The author formulates his point of view by providing relevant arguments. **Chapter Two** examines the language policy of Lebanon from a historical perspective. The PhD student consistently substantiates his view that the new 21st century is marked by the development of a national trilingual Arab-Anglo-French educational model. **Chapter Four**

shows a particular interest the Lebanese education policy, which is critically analyzed on the basis of factual data. **Chapter Four** is devoted to the actual research of the doctoral student – the creation of an innovative optimized trilingual model and a procedure for its validation and approbation. The main conclusions of the research are presented in the **Conclusion**. The **bibliography** contains 125 titles in Bulgarian, English, French, German and Russian.

2. Evaluation of the applicant's results and contributions

The scientific and applied contributions indicated by the PhD student reflect the actual results achieved in the dissertation, which I accept.

3. Evaluation of dissertation publications

Anatoli Deshev is the author of 3 publications on the topic of the dissertation. There is no difference between the approaches and the analysis made in the dissertation and in the articles presented.

4. Evaluation of the abstract

All requirements for composing an abstract have been met. The main theoretical principles and concrete results of the dissertation research are presented.

I accept the contributions of the dissertation mentioned in the abstract.

5. Critical notes and recommendations.

I have a number of critical remarks and specific recommendations, which can contribute to building on what has been achieved so far.

- There is a certain disparity between the chapters in the thesis. The third chapter is the most sizeable (112 pages) and is mostly descriptive – an overview of Lebanese education policy. A shorter presentation would have led to an emphasis on the essential part of the research – the author's model for trilingual training, presented in Chapter Four.
- It is advisable to indicate the date of use when citing internet sources.

The comments and recommendations made do not undermine the merits of the study and do not alter my positive assessment of the results achieved.

Conclusion

I think Anatoli Deshev has developed a dissertation whose quality and usefulness will be beneficial for both theory and practice. It is a self-contained, in-depth scientific study that develops a topic relevant to the contemporary methodology of foreign language teaching, covers a wealth of linguistic material and has an indisputable contribution character.

I believe that the dissertation submitted is of the kind and volume required by Art. 27, para. 2 of the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and Art. 64, para 2 of the The Rules on the Terms and Conditions for Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Occupation of Academic Positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski ". The dissertation reflects the results of the PhD student's research, according to Art. 27, para 1 of the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and shows that Anatoli Deshev possesses in-depth theoretical knowledge in the relevant scientific field and the capacity for independent scientific research in accordance with Art. 27, para. 1 of the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

As a member of the Scientific Committee, I give my positive vote "FOR" and propose to the Honorable Committee to vote for awarding Anatoli Vasilev Deshev the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of Education in ... (Foreign Language Teaching Methodology - English).

Prof. Dr. Galina Shamonina

6th December 2019