

REVIEW

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of the scientific production of Associate Professor Georgi Yakimov Stoychev, the only participant in the competition for "Professor", announced by SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" for the needs of the Faculty of History in professional direction 3.1. Pedagogy of the Education in, (Methods of Teaching History. Education and civic education in the 20s - 30s of the 20th century), State Gazette, no. 56, June 30, 2023.

The procedure is in accordance with the Law of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules for the Occupancy of Academic Positions at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski".

Assoc. Prof. G. Yakimov, the only participant in the competition, has many years of teaching and research experience at the Faculty of History of the University of St. Kl. Ohridski" in the field of the current competition. In 1989-2002 he was a history teacher, and after his election as an assistant in history teaching methodology in 2002, he did not cut ties with the school - he co-authored the writing of history textbooks and teaching handbooks, as well as methodological guidelines for teachers.

Assoc. Prof. Yakimov has defended his doctoral dissertation on the topic "Panteley Kisimov. "Renaissance public figure" (2001), and in 2012 he was elected associate professor in professional direction 1.3. Pedagogy of the Education in ..., Methods of Teaching History ... Education and civic education in the 20s - 30s of the 20th century. Prof. G. Yakimov conducts lecture courses, seminars and pedagogical practices for the acquisition of teaching qualifications in the Faculty of History, as well as in the master's program "History Education in the Secondary School", he supervises graduates in the same program.

Assoc. Prof. G. Yakimov submitted for review one monograph and 19 independent publications. He also presented 11 textbooks, 9 books for the teacher, 5 study notebooks and 7 study aids (all co-authored).

The habilitation work of Assoc. Profe. G. Yakimov "Bulgarian Education (1934-1939)" was published in the current year 2023 by the University Publishing House. The study rests on a solid source base. Normative documents of the Ministry of Education, publications of leading ideologues of educational policy, textbooks on civic education and teaching methodology were used.

I fully share the approach of Assoc. Prof. G. Yakimov to the object of his research. It examines the dynamics of the educational system in close connection with the socio-political conjuncture and changes in state ideology. The impact of external factors such as the collapsing Versailles system and the rise of nationalism and authoritarian ideas in Europe has not been overlooked.

The research has a number of factual contributions that can be presented in the following more important directions: the gradual formation of the ideology of the "new state", the roads; the mechanisms of its penetration into the various segments of the Bulgarian education system;

the processes of upward centralization and the liquidation of a number of democratic traditions of the Bulgarian school work.

A huge body of facts has been collected about the educational reforms of the nineteenth century and non-party governments in the second half of the 1930s. The dynamics of different types and levels of schools, characterized by instability and inconsistency, are covered.

There are factual contributions in the field of educational resources aimed at raising the national self-esteem of students; the development of the material and technical base of the schools and the expansion of the network of student dormitories and dining halls for children from poor families; of the methods of education in a collectivist spirit.

Multi-layered information is systematized about the role that the non-party regimes assign to teaching for affirming the values of the "new state", while at the same time high demands are placed on the teaching profession.

In addition to factual density, the monograph has conceptual contributions. Assoc. Prof. G. Yakimov believes that the pedagogical ideas during the considered period remain within the framework of nationalism, although their pathos resembles fascist and national socialist propaganda. According to him, until the end of the 1930s, the Bulgarian educational system remained within the framework of tradition, borrowing from external influences only what could be adapted to Bulgarian conditions; does not accept that during the same period the Educational Union showed a pro-fascist bias, etc.

An important direction in the evaluated monograph is the follow-up of the civic aspects in the training. All the mechanisms and levels through which the ideas of the non-party authoritarian regime enter the classrooms are analyzed.

The study is not without weaknesses. There is information overload, which in some places makes it difficult to understand the text. Regardless, the monograph successfully follows the research traditions of the Faculty of History in the field of the history of Bulgarian education and confirms the position of Assoc. Prof. Yakimov as a leading researcher in the field of civic education.

Part of the studies and articles of Assoc. Prof. Yakimov are included in his habilitation work. Others supplement the general lines of his research, including basic data on civic education in Russia, the United States, Poland, Great Britain. One of the articles examines the history and civilization education standards for the fifth grade.

In conclusion: The materials submitted for evaluation fully meet the profile of the applied competition, as well as the requirements for the occupation of the academic position "professor". Proceeding from the merits of the candidate's scientific and teaching work, I confidently propose to the Honorable Jury to award Associate Professor Georgi Yakimov Stoychev the academic title of "Professor" in the announced specialty 1.3. Pedagogy of the Education in (Methods of Teaching History) Education and civic education in the 20s - 30s of the 20th century.

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