

## **OPINION**

**by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hrisula Atanas Nedyalkova**

of a dissertation work for the acquisition of a scientific degree “Doctor of Sciences” in the field of higher education: 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.2. Pedagogy (Theory of education and didactics - Theory of education)

on the subject:

**The ideas of the new education movement and modern public education**

Author:

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milka Nikolova Terziyska-Stefanova**

By order No. RD 38-61/31.01.2023 of the Rector of SU “St. Kliment Ohridski” I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury for the acquisition of the scientific degree “Doctor of Sciences”.

### **Data for Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milka Nikolova Terziyska-Stefanova**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milka Nikolova Terziyska-Stefanova received her basic higher education in 1983 at SU “St. Kliment Ohridski”, branch - Blagoevgrad - Educational and Qualification Degree “Master” in Primary School Pedagogy. In 2008, he received the Educational and Scientific Degree “Doctor” in History of Pedagogy and Bulgarian Education.

The professional experience of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Terziyska-Stefanova includes the following positions: primary teacher, tour guide, methodological expert, senior specialist at the National Institute of Education at the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, inspector-doctoral students and inspector for competitions under the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria at the Faculty of Educational Sciences and Arts, SU “St. Kl. Ohridski”. The launch of her academic career began in parallel in 1983 as a part-time assistant, assistant and senior assistant at the Higher Pedagogical Institute (Southwestern University "Neofit Rilski") - Blagoevgrad. Since 2017, he has been the Chief Assistant at the Faculty of Educational Sciences and the Arts and provides the study disciplines: Psychological and Pedagogical Foundations of Information Culture, Comparative Preschool Education and History of Childhood.

Since 2020, she currently holds the academic position of “Associate Professor” in professional direction 1.2. Pedagogy (Preschool pedagogy - psychological-pedagogical foundations of information culture).

The scientific interests of the doctoral student are in several professional and thematic areas: Psychological-pedagogical foundations of information culture, Comparative preschool education, Theory and history of childhood, History of Bulgarian education, the New Education movement, Contemporary European policies and practices regarding the preparation of doctoral students , Contemporary European policies and practices regarding the teaching of religions as a non-denominational subject in the public schools of European countries and the training of religious teachers.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Terziyska-Stefanova conducts lecture courses in the educational and qualification degree “Bachelor” in the following compulsory disciplines: Psychological-pedagogical foundations of information culture, Comparative preschool education; compulsory elective course in: Socialization of the personality in the information society, History of childhood, as well as supervises Pedagogical Practice in the educational and qualification degree “Master” in the Faculty of Educational Sciences and Arts.

### **Data on the doctoral procedure**

The admission to public defense of the dissertation work is documented by order No. RD 38-61/31.01.2023 of the Rector of SU “St. Kliment Ohridski” regarding the composition of the scientific jury and the parameters of public protection. From the submitted documents it can be seen that no violations were committed during the realization of the dissertation work of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milka Nikolova Terziyska-Stefanova.

### **Dissertation and abstract data**

The presented dissertation work is structured according to the scientific standards that are required for this type of development. It consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, scientific contributions, publications on the topic of the dissertation, references and 4 appendices. The dissertation has a volume of 331 pages, of which the main text is 245 pages.

The literature used includes: Sources - manuscripts and archival documents from the State Archives - Sofia; Sources: 147 titles, of which 119 in Cyrillic and 28 in Latin; Electronic trajectories: 105 titles, of which 45 in Cyrillic and 60 in Latin; 37 internet sites. The dissertation work is illustrated with 3 tables.

## **Presentation and scientific assessment of the dissertation work**

In the introductory part, the doctoral student highlights the topicality of the topic and the reasons for its choice, the main of which is her scientific intention to present and analyze the essence, history and development of the new education movement abroad and in our country, as well as its influence on modern public education.

Structurally, the dissertation defends what is stated in the research program.

In terms of content, the work is characterized by consistency in the exposition of the author's ideas.

Based on the chronological, systemic and cultural approaches, the examined and logically arranged facts trace the origin, spread and development of the movement for a new education from the end of the 19th century to the first decades of the 21st century and up to the present day. The analysis highlights the influence of his ideas on global public education.

The abstract has a volume of 80 pages, follows the structure of the dissertation text and fully presents the content and the main achievements in it.

## **Contributions to the dissertation work**

I accept the contribution points outlined by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Terziyska-Stefanova, which correspond to the real achievements of the dissertation work and can also be accepted as conclusions from the dissertation work.

Most notable are:

- In the first place, as significant, I would place the contributions related to the study and analysis of the process of birth, development and institutionalization of the new education movement, despite the richness and diversity of ideological bases, concepts, theories and practices, of forms of manifestation, of differences in the name.
- The contribution of Bulgarian pedagogical science and practice and the significant role of Professor Dimitar Katsarov in the development of ideas for a new education has been studied.
- The theoretical and practical parameters of the new education movement are examined in the context of its influence and contribution to affirming the value of the child and childhood.
- An important contribution is the researched and analyzed connection between the ideas of the new education movement and the challenges of modern education.

## **Publications and participation in scientific forums**

The author presents 10 publications: 1 monograph, 9 articles and reports, of which 7 are independent, 2 - in co-authorship, which corresponds to the required number, according to the requirements. They all represent different aspects of the dissertation research.

## **Performance of scientometric indicators**

From the report presented, it can be seen that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milka Nikolova Terziyska-Stefanova covers 575 points out of 350 mandatory points, in accordance with the minimum national requirements in connection with the procedure for awarding the scientific degree “Doctor of Sciences”.

## **Conclusion**

The analysis of the work, the proven scientific contributions and achievements of the candidate, give me the reason to propose to the respected scientific jury to award Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milka Nikolova Terziyska-Stefanova the scientific degree “Doctor of Sciences” in the field of higher education: 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.2. Pedagogy (Theory of education and didactics - Theory of education).

19.04.2023

Prepared the opinion:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hrisula Nedyalkova