



STANDPOINT

by **Prof. DSc Julia Georgieva Doncheva**

‘Angel Kanchev’ University of Rousse

regarding the materials of doctoral student *Gabriela Plamenova Valentinova - Metodieva*, for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor", in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, by professional direction 1.2. Pedagogy (Preschool pedagogy) with academic supervisor Prof. DSc Radoslav Ivanov Penev, at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Educational Sciences and Arts with the topic of the dissertation: "A model for optimizing the life-pedagogical culture of parents of 6-9-year-old children".

Data, finding and assessment of the competition procedure, the doctoral studies, the dissertation, the abstract and the publications for the competition.

1. Compliance of the procedure with the current regulations. Data on the competition and doctoral studies - Pursuant to Art. 4, para. 1 and 2 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, art. 2, para. 1 and para. 2, Art. 30, para. 3, Art. 31, para. 1 of the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, and on the basis of Order No. RD-38-305 of 26.06.2023 of the Rector of Sofia University, PhD student Assistant Professor Gabriela Plamenova Valentinova - Metodieva was dismissed with the right to defense with a positive decision of the primary readiness unit and her procedure was opened. A move has been made to defend the dissertation. All preliminary legal and regulatory rules provided for in this procedure have been complied with.



2. General biographical presentation of the candidate (education, qualifications, professional experience, etc.).

From the presented autobiography, it is clear that the educational qualification, academic growth and upgrading of the doctoral student is at the Faculty of Educational Sciences and Arts at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", which in turn shows a strong affiliation to the national educational institution. There was only one "deviation" when he worked as a primary teacher at the Private German School "Veda", Sofia, from 2016 to 2021.

She has certainly shown worthy qualities to be invited and at the present moment to realize herself as an assistant in preschool pedagogy, where the following disciplines are entrusted: Preschool pedagogy; Pedagogy of constructive-technical and household activities; Preschool pedagogy and social integration; Pedagogical technologies of game interaction and Hospitirane.

At Prima Vista, the continuous desire, aspiration and realization towards training, self-improvement and provoking new academic achievements of the doctoral student is impressive. Proficient in English at "B" level. She definitely has the skills and competencies she needs to work with children, students, adults and trainees.

3. Actuality of the issues of the dissertation work.

I will summarize the current situation in the following way - there are not many scientific developments on the subject, or if there are, they are not enough. The fact is that the PhD student's supervisor, Prof. DSc. Radoslav Penev, is a nationally and internationally recognized scientist who brought family pedagogy in Bulgaria to the level it is at, the highest, and in this case mentoring, bringing this difficult topic to the end, both as an object and subject, and as a research methodology and finalizing this scientific work to a peak that is a model for all beginning scientists! In addition, any research, theoretical, practical or practical-



applied, related to the connections, development and progress of interactions and relationships, "...optimizing the life-pedagogical culture of parents..." between children and family is relevant because it complements and superimposes the information bank for effective work. Nowadays, this information is extremely necessary for all target groups, therefore it should be popularized and multiplied, and not remain in the paper pages of the scientific work. Congratulations!

The Report Strikeplagiarism protocol conclusively proves the authenticity of the dissertation and the author's work, which I do not believe, do not admit, and have no doubt is personal.

4. Structure and content of the dissertation - The dissertation has a volume of 205 pages, of which 170 pages are text - exposition and 35 pages are appendices. Its structure includes an introduction, six chapters and a conclusion. The bibliography includes 115 titles, of which 76 sources are in Cyrillic, 20 are in Latin, and 19 are from the Internet. 4 applications are included - Survey for parents 1 - author's development of Prof. DSc. Radoslav Penev, Survey for parents 2 - evaluation of the content of the "Step by Step" model, Survey for students and teachers - evaluation of the content of the "Step by Step" model, Model for optimizing the life-pedagogical culture of parents of 6-9-year-old children "Step by Step" - presentation for parents.

5. Scientific theoretical and practical contributions.

Content and assessment of scientific contributions - Doctoral student Gabriela Valentinova - Metodieva presents 3 (three main) as well as a conclusion and conclusions that correspond and color the dissertation research. They are presented as follows: *I. Theoretical interpretation of the problem area; II. Diagnostic projections of the study; III. Formative research projections.* They are presented clearly, correctly and above all, which is extremely important, with a focus on application in real practice.



Summarizing the mandatory part of the opinion on the contributing moments of the scientific work, I will note that developments of this kind should find a place in the scientific literature, so that pedagogical, non-pedagogical specialists, experts interested in the issue, here specifically and for parents as well, can find their answers.

6. Auto-reference data.

The abstract, with a total volume of 47 pages, of which one page "Scientific contributions" and one page for the publications on the topic (7 in number) meet all the standard requirements for a synthesized and adequate, analytical and systematic development of the primary document, the scientific text, as well as the objective reflection of the content of the dissertation research. The scientific and technical requirements for the design and presentation of it in the paper version and in the digital form as an online publication have been met. The correctness is visible, the scientific value of the scientific work has been analyzed, as well as the quantitative data according to the normative requirements in the national and intra-institutional laws and regulations.

I state with satisfaction that no violations have been committed regarding the compliance of the dissertation and the originality of the work with the requirements of LDASRB, the Regulations for it, the Regulations for the acquisition of scientific degrees at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" and the institution's internal rules.

7. Publications on the topic of the dissertation (content and fulfillment of scientometric requirements).

7.1. Publication data.

The dissertation student presents 7 (seven) publications on the topic of scientific research, published in the period 2019-2022. All are independent. Their

content is adequate and corresponds to the dissertation, both as a stage and as a continuum.

7.2. Assessment of conformity of the scientific production according to the requirements of LDAS: The doctoral student participates with the following scientific production, related to the Scientometric criteria for the minimum national requirements for the scientific and teaching activity of candidates for acquiring scientific degrees and occupying academic positions, Area 1. Pedagogical Sciences, as follows:

- *Dissertation work for awarding the educational and scientific degree "doctor", Group A, Indicator 1* → **50 points.**

- *Group D 7. Articles and reports published in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes:* **7 number of independent x 10 points = 70 points;**

Publications - a total of 7, independent, published in the period from 2019 to 2022. Total number of points according to the Publications indicator = **70 points.**

Total number of points for indicators from groups A and D = **120 points.**

From here, it can be categorically summarized that the sum of the indicators of the respective groups **fully meets**, exceeding many times over, the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3 of LDASRB and Art. 1a, paragraph 1 of the RILDASRB and, accordingly, according to Art. 24, para. 1 of the Regulations for the implementation of LDASRB (for the educational and scientific degree "doctor") for area 1. Pedagogical sciences, Professional direction 1.2. Pedagogy (Preschool pedagogy).

8. Personal impressions.

I do not personally know assistant professor Gabriela Plamenova Valentinova - Metodieva, but judging by the scientific production - dissertation,



abstract and publications submitted for participation in the competition, I can state that together, under the extremely professional and competent guidance of my scientific supervisor, Prof. DSc. Radoslav Penev, is a finalized scientific work, the subject of which is particularly significant, current and, I would say, a step ahead of its time, containing no significant weaknesses that would detract from its merits. Congratulations!

9. Notes, recommendations and questions.

As a recommendation, I can point out the following: it is good for the doctoral student to expand her participation in national and especially in international educational projects. That is, to have an aspiration for/to popularize the results of the research activity in publications, conferences, scientific meetings, etc. outside the borders of Bulgaria, so that the results, which are really significant, can be heard, seen and recognized.

Questions:

- Can your research be applied on a wider scale, like national, for example? Specify, in your opinion, the difficulties, the factors that would prevent the mass implementation of your concept?
- How do you generally see the application of the development, in your future specific work (from here on, how will you develop him/her)?

10. Conclusion - Doctoral student Gabriela Plamenova Valentinova - Metodieva has fulfilled her obligations arising from the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of the LDASRB, the Regulations of SU "St. Kliment Ohridski", as well as the obligations under the corresponding individual study plan of the doctoral student, that is, it meets the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3 of LDASRB and Art.



1a, paragraph 1 of RILDASR. The form and content of the dissertation meet the requirements of Art. 27 of RILDASRB, all administrative procedures have been followed.

Bearing in mind the above, I confidently give my *positive assessment* of the conducted research, presented in the dissertation work, the abstract, the achieved results and contributions.

I declare *my positive vote for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor"/PhD to Gabriela Plamenova Valentinova - Metodieva* from professional field 1.2. Pedagogy - Preschool pedagogy, field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences.

Prepared the opinion, as a member of the scientific jury:

(Prof. DSc Julia Doncheva)

21.07.2023

