

STANDPOINT

By

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Of Scientific Works Presented

By Associate Professor Gabriela Nikolova Kirova, PhD,

In Relation with Participation in a Contest for Occupying the Academic Position of

“Professor” at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”

Under Higher Education Area: 1. Pedagogical Sciences,

Professional Field: 1.3. Pedagogy of Teaching

(Methodology of teaching mathematics in primary grades)

In the competition for the position - ‘professor’, announced in the State Gazette, Issue 96 of 19.11.2021 and on the website of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, as a candidate participates Assoc. Prof. Gabriela Nikolova Kirova, PhD from SU “St. Kliment Ohridski”.

1. General presentation of the procedure and the candidate

With order № ПД-38-3 of 04.01.2022 of the Rector of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” (SU) I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury and a reviewer in a contest for occupying the academic position of “**professor**” at SU under higher education area: 1. Pedagogical Sciences, Professional Field: 1.3. Pedagogy of Teaching (Methodology of teaching mathematics in primary grades).

According to the announced procedure, I received a complete set of materials on electronic media.

Assoc. Prof. Gabriela Nikolova Kirova is the head of the Department of Primary School Pedagogy at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". She received her Master's degree in Pedagogy (with a second degree in Philosophy) at Sofia University in 1986. She received a PhD in Mathematics Teaching Methodology in 2013. Kirova has many years of experience as a lecturer at Sofia University "St. Kl. Ohridski", passing from the position assistant in 1987, senior assistant in 1990, head assistant professor in 1999 and associated professor in 2015.

2. Summary characteristic of candidate's activities

Assessment of the candidate's pedagogical and educational activity

Assoc. Prof. Gabriela Nikolova Kirova, PhD has extensive teaching experience. She teaches many disciplines in the Bachelor's and Master's degrees. Some of these disciplines are: "Didactics of Mathematics", "Creative work on text problems in mathematics in I - IV grade", "Methodology of teaching mathematics in primary school", "Introduction to primary school pedagogy", "Work on projects in the teaching of mathematics in the primary grades", "Diagnostics and external evaluation of the results of the training in the primary grades" and many others of students from the bachelor's and master's degrees.

Assoc. Prof. Kirova successfully organizes scientific forums, including – “Annual student essay competition at the Faculty of Primary and Preschool Education of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” (2013-2016) and “Annual Student Scientific Forum at the Faculty of Primary and Preschool Pedagogy of Sofia University “St. Cl. Ohridski” (from 2012).

Assoc. Prof. Gabriela Kirova has a rich project activity - she is an academic mentor in Project № BG05M2OP001 - 2.002-0001 "Student Internships", head or member of a number of internal projects at Sofia University and Shumen University.

Assoc. Prof. Gabriela Kirova is a supervisor of two successful defended PhD students.

Assessment of the candidate's scientific- research activity

The candidate has submitted a total of 48 papers, of which 24 articles, 3 studies, 1 monograph, 6 textbooks and 14 manuals. Of the presented scientific publications, 9 have been published abroad - mainly in the Knowledge International Journal. 8 articles are in English, 17 have been published abroad. In all studies and scientific articles Kirova is the only author.

The scientific papers submitted for the competition cover areas relevant to contemporary education. Kirova examines the mathematical thinking of primary

school students and the importance of mathematical education for its development. Most of the works are focused on the training of primary school teachers. Assoc. Prof. Kirova creates and approves a model for training students in the specialties of primary school teacher training, for working with text problems in mathematics. In them, Assoc. Prof. Kirova passes on her rich experience to her students and graduates. We should note the valuable monographic work that Kirova published in 2021 - *The training of students, future primary teachers, to work with word problems in mathematics*, Sofia, VEDA SLOVENA-ZG, 326 p.

The candidate has submitted a reference to 17 citations in articles and monographs but I am deeply convinced that many more citations are available.

The quantitative indicators of the presented materials satisfy and exceed the requirements of the Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the requirements of the University of Sofia.

3. Critical remarks and recommendations

The scientific production submitted for participation in the contest does not contain noticeable imperfections that can minimize its value.

As a recommendation, I can say that it is appropriate for the candidate to publish his results in a wider range of publications in Bulgaria and abroad.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials presented by Assoc. Prof. Gabriela Nikolova Kirova, PhD **comply** with all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations on its implementation, and the respective SU “St. Kliment Ohridski” regulations.

The candidate in the contest has presented a significant number of scientific materials, published after the materials used for the PhD educational-scientific degree defense and the contest for acquiring the academic position of ‘associate professor’. The candidate’s work contains original scientific and applied contributions that have

been granted recognition and a considerable part of them are published in scientific journals and editions by national and international academic publishers. The candidate's theoretical elaborations have practical applicability and part of the work is closely directed to teaching and education. The scientific and lecturer qualification of Assoc. Prof. Gabriela Nikolova Kirova, PhD is undeniable.

The candidate **complies with** the minimum national requirements for occupying the academic position of “professor’ in Professional Field 1.3.

I have no doubts for plagiarism in the submitted scientific work.

After reviewing the materials and scientific works presented for the contest and analyzing their significance and the scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions they contain I find it justified to give my **positive assessment** and to recommend to the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty of Science, Education and Arts of Sofia University to appoint Assoc. Prof. Gabriela Nikolova Kirova, PhD to the academic position “**professor**” at SU “St. Kliment Ohridski”.under Professional Field 1.3. Pedagogy of Teaching (Methodology of teaching mathematics in primary grades).

8.02.2022

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/Prof. DSc. Nataliya Pavlova/