

## **OPINION**

By Assos. Prof. Fani Evgenieva Boykova, Ph.D.

University of Plovdiv

"Paisii Hilendarski"

on a dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific degree "doctor"

in the field of higher education: 1. Pedagogical sciences

professional direction: 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching in... (Methodology of teaching Bulgarian language)

Author: Stoika Yordanova Chakarova

Topic: "Development of students' communicative competence through project-oriented learning of the Bulgarian language"

Scientific supervisor: Prof. Dr. Tatyana Angelova

### **General presentation of the procedure and the PhD student**

By order No. RD38-612 on 20.11.2023 of the Rector of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury for the procedure for the defense of a dissertation work on the topic "Development of students' communicative competence through project-oriented learning of the Bulgarian language" and acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "doctor" in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences; professional direction: 1.3. Pedagogy of training in... (Methodology of teaching in the Bulgarian language). The author of the dissertation work is Stoika Yordanova Chakarova with scientific supervisor Prof. Dr. Tatiana Angelova.

The set of materials presented by Stoika Chakarova is in accordance with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the SU, with the most significant components being: the dissertation, the author's abstract and the publications on the subject.

The doctoral student demonstrates good scientific preparation and broad bibliographic awareness of the subject under consideration. The scientific literature studied and explained in the text includes 81 sources, of which: 46 titles in Bulgarian, 11 documents, 24 titles in English and Russian. The research is structured in an introduction, four chapters, outcomes, conclusion, contributions, list of publications on the topic, bibliography, appendices. The research of the dissertation topic has been popularized through participation in 3 scientific forums and 5 publications in specialized titles, 3 of which in Web of Science. The doctoral student has also

participated in the implementation of 1 scientific project at the Department of Teaching Methodology at the Faculty of Slavic Philology of the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

### **Relevance of the topic and characteristics of the dissertation work**

In her dissertation, Stoyka Chakarova explores an issue with a marked scientific-applied value and relevance. The text makes sense of the accumulated experience through the prism of fundamental scientific statements, which provide a basis for justifying the proposed methodological solutions. The research demonstrates the doctoral student's competence to analytically compare and summarize basic theory and research empiricism, convincingly arguing her personal position. The choice of research field is motivated by the author's long-term teaching experience in school. Productive for practice is the presented methodological model for project-oriented teaching aimed at developing competencies that will support the future social and professional realization of the students. The presented project also delivers an additional value with the social commitment shown by the participating students. In this manner they develop their social and civic competences.

The proposed methodological model of project-oriented education is justified in the context of the competence approach in education. The used research methods, among which the study of theoretical and theoretical-applied sources, the processing and analysis of empirical data, are suitable for the topic of the study. The research toolkit is tailored to the set goals and objectives.

The motivation for focusing on the topic is justified in the introduction. The first chapter describes the hypothesis, the goals and tasks that the author sets for herself, the research procedures. The second chapter presents an analysis and comparison of scientific statements that investigate the concept of communicative competence. The history of theoretical understanding of its components by leading researchers of the problem - Del Hymes, N. Chomsky, M. Canale, M. Swain, Van Ek and others - has been traced. The communicative competence is also examined in the educational documentation (DOS, UP on BE, Preschool and School Education Act, etc.). The relation of communicative competence to key competences and to the understanding of literacy in a wider contemporary context is discussed. The third chapter explores constructivism and its application in education. The theoretical statements related to the method of the projects are analyzed. A methodology model for project-oriented learning of the Bulgarian language in high school is presented and its main characteristics are described. In the fourth chapter, the experiential project-oriented learning is presented and the results of the activities are analyzed.

## **Characteristics of contributions**

The significant pedagogical experience of the doctoral student and its interpretation in the context of the issues under consideration are evident in the proposed methodology model of project-oriented learning. The model is tailored to the specifics of the professional preparation of the students and is aimed at developing the communicative competences expected as results of the study of Bulgarian language at the high school level. It is important to note that project work creates conditions for students to be participants in authentic communicative situations and thus develop skills for successful social interaction.

Based on analytically interpreted scientific research on the subject of the dissertation, a distinction is made between the characteristics of project-oriented and project-based learning.

The contributions of the dissertation work with scientific and applied value are manifested in the prospects for application of the author's ideas.

## **Abstract**

The abstract correctly reflects the content and main results presented in the dissertation work.

## **Conclusion**

The doctoral student Stoika Yordanova Chakarova demonstrated in-depth theoretical knowledge and professional skills for independent conduct of scientific research.

The submitted work contains the necessary components of a doctoral dissertation; contains scientific, scientific-applied and applied results, which represent an original contribution to science and meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB) and the Regulations for the Implementation of ZRASRB.

Due to the above, I confidently give my positive assessment of the conducted research, achieved results and contributions, and I propose to the honorable scientific jury to award the educational and scientific degree "doctor" to Stoika Yordanova Chakarova in the field of higher education<sup>1</sup>. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.3. Pedagogy of education in... (Methodology of teaching Bulgarian language).

18.02. 2024 Prepared the opinion: .....

Assoc. Prof. Fani Boykova, Ph.D.