

OPINION

PROFESSOR, DOCTOR OF HISTORICAL SCIENCES MILKO STOYANOV

PALANGURSKI, PROFESSOR OF NEW BULGARIAN HISTORY AT VTU "ST. CYRIL AND ST. METHODIUS" APPOINTED AS A MEMBER OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY BY ORDER 3-PK-79/22.12.2022 OF THE DEAN OF NEW BULGARIAN UNIVERSITY FOR THE COMPETITION FOR THE ACADEMIC POSITION OF ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN THE PROFESSIONAL FIELD 2.2. HISTORY AND ARCHEOLOGY (HISTORY OF BULGARIA), DEPARTMENT "HISTORY", PUBLISHED IN STATE GAZETTE NO. 92/18.11.2022. SINGLE CANDIDATE CHIEF ASSISTANT DR. DIMITAR YORDANOV GYUDYUROV

I. Assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements and the requirements of New Bulgarian University

The candidate has the required by law scientific and educational degree "doctor" with the topic "Minority policy of Bulgaria - internal and Balkan aspects (1919-1928)" defended on 29.10. 2012 and reviewed according to the law and verified in NACID. The submitted works - a monograph presented as the main habilitation thesis, a monograph that derives from the dissertation work, studies and articles published in refereed and non-refereed journals and anthologies, show that the candidate meets and exceeds the minimum scientometric requirements of the law

II. Research activity and results

The candidate participates in the competition with a habilitation thesis dedicated to an unexplored topic in Bulgarian historiography, dedicated to the traditions, development of production and trade in opiates: "Bulgarians and opiates. Production and Trade 1879-1944", Sofia: New Bulgarian University, 2022. ISBN

978-619-233-202-0. 269 pp. On page 269 he examined the question of the role and place of this specifically Bulgarian traditional branch related to smuggling, as part of the Balkan economy. The monograph is written on the basis of a huge number of historical sources of different types and origins, which have been collected from various archives, from the press, from diaries and memoirs of contemporaries of the events, etc. 28 archival funds were used, which in itself is a historiographical achievement. The author shows a very good knowledge of historiographical achievements, having also involved a considerable amount of literature. The monograph consists of three chapters with 10 subsections, an epilogue and literature, and meets all the requirements of a scientific study and, in particular, the parameters set by law.

The candidate's work in reconstructing this interesting process is essentially a combination of national and international history. This approach, as well as the professional scientific-critical handling of historical sources, have provided the author with the opportunity to point the focus to the most important problems and should be recognized as the main contribution of the research. The author analyzes all possible elements of opiate production and trade: traditions and concentration of production, legal and illegal production and distribution of this strange commodity, international situation and politics, smuggling channels, UN conventions and police activity to limit and at the same time control over legitimate proceedings. All of the author's analyzes and conclusions are supported by sufficient source material and have their presence in the historiographical process, and some of them can be changed only by searching for new source material that motivates and shows new aspects of said conclusions.

Ch. Assistant Dr. D. Gyudurov has publications in all indicators from 6 to 10 in group D of the minimum scientific requirements, as the landmark studies and articles have been published in refereed publications - with the required 200 points, the presented research covers 245 points. Two of them are in a foreign language, which makes them recognizable in international databases and convenient for citation. Both monographs are peer-reviewed, and the articles presented are in journals and collections that support peer-review.

Ch. Assistant Professor D. Gyudurov shows scientific growth after obtaining the scientific and educational degree "doctor". He addresses a new and unexplored topic, which ends with a monograph, demonstrating his scientific variability and ability to find, consider and analyze new topics, which is essential for established scientists. He has good methodological training and a professional attitude towards the source material and the achievements of the academy. The versatility and multidirectionality of his studies are also evident from his publications.

The participant in the competition has citations and reviews in the required by the legislator source, with indicators far exceeding the minimum. This shows that he is known to the scientific community and his works are in scientific circulation.

Chief Assistant Dr. Dimitar Gyudyurov is already an established scientist who has his own place in the historiographical process: with very clear and precisely defined areas of scientific research - various aspects of Bulgarian history. His scientific concentration is on the development of minority problems and the sphere of specific problems from the history of the country, etc. The analysis and source material brought into scientific circulation was personally found, processed and interpreted. The presented theses have their place and life in the

scientific space and are very quickly reflected in the historiographical process. I must emphasize that the presented habilitation thesis and a huge number of the articles and studies are entirely dedicated to the subject of the competition and cover the field of History of Bulgaria. The various fields of research show that the candidate's competencies are sufficient to become an authoritative researcher of the country's recent past.

III. Educational and teaching activities

From the presented materials, it is clear that the participant in the competition works actively in the classroom and extra-auditory activities of the NBU, works on the creation of new bachelor's and master's programs, training seminars on topics that are in his research profile, presenting the university to foreign institutions.

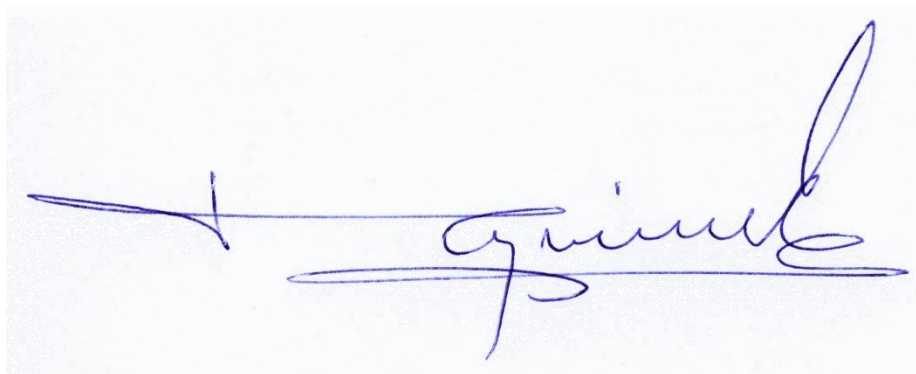
Ch. Assistant Dr. Dimitar Gyudyurov works actively with students on scientific programs and projects, has a high approval rate from among students, is a supervisor of trainees and a reviewer of student research projects.

IV. Personal impressions of the candidate

My personal impressions of the candidate for associate professor are completely positive. He has correctness towards scientific problems, collegiality towards the members of the professional academy, is ready to cooperate and work in research groups and to teach his competence to his students.

V. Opinions, recommendations and notes on the activity and achievements of the candidate

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that the research presented to the scientific jury and the research work carried out give me full reason to state that the participant in the competition is a researcher who meets the requirements for holding the academic position of "associate professor". There are no suspicions of plagiarism. Considering the quality of the habilitation work, the research profile and the topic of the competition: **"History of Bulgaria"**, I propose to the **Academic Council of the institution that announced the competition**, Chief Assistant. Dr. Dimitar Gyudurov to be elected for the academic position of "associate professor".

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Stoyanov', with a long horizontal line extending to the left and a large, stylized flourish on the right.

PROFESSOR, DOCTOR OF HISTORICAL SCIENCES MILKO STOYANOV PALANGURSKI