Вх. № ЧР-03-395/22.10.2024 г.

OPINION

from

Prof. Ph.D.Sc. Snezhana Evlogieva Ilieva,

Department of Social, Organizational, Clinical and Pedagogical Psychology,

Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"

regarding

competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional direction 3.2. Psychology (Professional guidance and career development) for the needs of the "Work and Organizational Psychology" section, IPHS at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, announced in the State Gazette, no. 58 of 09.07.2024

1. General presentation of the materials received under the competition and compliance with the minimum national requirements for occupying the academic position "Associate professor"

The current opinion is prepared in accordance with the decision of the Scientific Jury, protocol No. 1 of 16. 09. 2024, determined by Order No. RD-6-446 of 05. 09. 2024 of the Director of IPHS -BAS. The only candidate in the competition announced by the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (SG, No. 58 of 09.07.2024) for the needs of the "Work and Organizational Psychology" section is Dr. Sezgin Myumyun Bekir, chief assistant in the "Psychology" department, IPHS -BAS. The documents submitted for participation in the competition comply with the requirements of the ŽRASRB, PPZRASRB and the Regulations for the terms and conditions for occupying academic positions at the IPHS -BAS.

Ch. Assistant Professor Sezgin Bekir participated in the competition with 22 scientific works, of which a monograph, which is a habilitation work, a published book based on a defended dissertation work, 4 co-authored articles and reports published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information and 16 articles and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes. The monograph "Transactional analysis and vocational guidance", BAS publishing

house "Prof. Marin Drinov", Sofia, 2024, ISBN 978-619-245-42 6-5 has a volume of 176 pages. The published book based on a protected dissertation work for the award of an educational and scientific degree "doctor " "Ego states and life positions in the professional realization of the personality", 2022, ISBN 978-619-188-889-4 is not included in the assessment, but participates in taking into account the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position of "associate professor". Of the total number of his publications in refereed scientific publications and in non-refereed journals with scientific review, 4 are in English, 11 are independent and 9 are co-authored.

The submitted scientific works and the reference for citations exceed the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position "Associated professor", field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional direction 3.2. Psychology, according to the Appendix to Art. 1a, para. 1 of PPZRASRB and correspond to the requirements of BAS according to Art. 27 and Appendix 1 of the Regulations on the terms and conditions for occupying academic positions at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences - BAS.

2. Applicant data

Sezgin Bekir graduated in Psychology from SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" in 2001 with master's programs in "Work and Organizational Psychology" and in "Clinical and Counseling Psychology". He has professional experience as a labor mediator in the Labor Bureau - Kardzhali and as a military psychologist in the divisions in Momchilgrad and Haskovo. From 2003 to 2019, he was the chief secretary of the Municipality of Kardzhali, leading and participating in national projects related to the application of psychology in social practice, along with administrative activities. From 2005 to the present, he is the chairman of the Municipal Council on Narcotic Substances - Kardzhali and conducts trainings and consultations, preventive activities and information campaigns against the abuse of narcotic substances.

In January 2019, he obtained the educational and scientific degree PhD with a dissertation on the topic: "Ego states and life positions in the professional realization of the personality". by professional direction 3.2. Psychology in the Department of Psychology, IPHS - BAS. In the period 2019 - 2021, he is a postdoctoral student/researcher, and from 2022 to the present he holds the academic position of "principal assistant" in the Department of "Psychology", IPHS - BAS.

3. General characteristics of scientific works, scientific and scientific-applied contributions

The monograph "Transactional Analysis and Vocational Guidance" analyzes the main achievements of transactional analysis and its application in vocational guidance and career counseling. The thesis is a systematic and in-depth study of the main constructs of transactional analysis and their relation to occupational choice and the perception of subjective career success. The importance of ego states, life script and life positions formed in the process of personal development, which influence career choices and the experience of career success in adulthood, is emphasized. The structural and functional approaches in explaining ego states and life positions and scenarios are integrated, which allows to present theoretical and empirical arguments regarding the importance of transactional analysis in career and organizational counseling. The main focus of the habilitation work is on vocational orientation, with the various models and stages in the process of professional choice and further professional realization and career development analyzed. Case analyzes are also included that highlight the role of life scenario and the failure or repetition of given career decisions and choices impeding career development in adulthood. Although the characteristics of adolescent choices are emphasized and considered through the lens of ego states and life scenarios, the generalizations made are valid and applicable in organizational contexts and in adult career planning and development.

Scientific publications are dominated by the results of own research, for which a set of methods have been adapted that reveal the determining role of personal characteristics for successful career development. The contributions of the scientific publications are correctly noted by Ch. Assistant Dr. Sezgin Bekir.

I would like to highlight several of the most significant ones, which are a contribution not only to the development of the theory and practice of professional guidance in our country, but also contribute to the establishment of significant scientific regularities and prove the explanatory power and applicability of transactional analysis. The self-esteem of students in the 7th grade was studied , as this is a critical age stage in vocational guidance. Personal and gender differences in early adolescence that determine professional choice are outlined . The importance of the parental environment is emphasized, which in principle has a significant influence on the success of the choice in adolescence.

Along with factors for career choice and guidelines for vocational guidance in adolescence, the results of own research in adulthood have been applied, covering various professional groups, including teachers, doctors, nurses. These results reveal significant personal and situational factors that determine the perception of career success, professional fulfillment and satisfaction with career development.

Among the contributions is the emphasis on vulnerable groups and the factors that determine their occupational choices, as well as their comparison with the occupational choices of non-vulnerable groups. Drawing out differences between them would support the process of social and professional inclusion and is generally in line with trends to create and maintain inclusive school and work environments.

I have not noticed and have no evidence of plagiarism in the scientific works submitted for participation in the competition.

4. Personal impressions of the candidate

I have excellent impressions of Sezgin Bekir from the period of his studies at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" in the Master's program in Work and Organizational Psychology and as a reviewer of his dissertation for obtaining the educational and scientific degree PhD. He has a systematic and in-depth training in psychology, integrates theoretical achievements in research practice, combines quantitative and qualitative research approaches and applies established regularities in career counseling and development.

5. Conclusion

Those presented by Ch. Assistant Sezgin Mümün Bekir, Ph.D. scientific works reveal a consistent growth and a lasting research interest in problems significant for modern labor and organizational psychology in the field of professional orientation and career development. A balance has been achieved between modern theoretical views, quantitative results from a series of own scientific studies and approaches for vocational guidance and career counseling based on them. Based on the scientific works presented in the competition, the research contributions and the applicability of the results of his research in practice, I give a positive assessment to the candidacy of Ch. Assistant Dr. Sezgin Myumyun Bekir for occupying the academic position

"docent" in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional direction 3.2. Psychology (Vocational guidance and career development) at IPHS -BAN.

21. 10. 2024

Prof. Ph.D.Sc. Snezhana Ilieva