OPINION

by **Assoc. Prof. Daniela Stefanova Angelova PhD** – Institute for Population and Human Research at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences,

On the scientific works of **Asst. Prof.Boris Plamenov Boev PhD,** participant in a competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 2. Humanities, professional field 2.2. History and Archaeology, scientific specialty "Historical Demography – Legislation in the field of migration policy between the two world wars", promulgated in the "State Gazette", issue 92 of 31. 10. 2025.

The competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" has been announced for the needs of the "Historical Demography" unit at the "Demography" department at the Institute for Population and Human Studies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. The stipulated legal deadlines and procedural requirements have been met. One candidate participates in it. The only participant in the competition is Asst. Prof.Boris Plamenov Boev PhD.

1. Brief biographical data about the candidate

Boris Boev is a assistant professor at the Institute of History and Culture-BAS (since 2019) and a PhD in History of Bulgaria - Modern Bulgarian History 1878–1944 from Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" (2017). He holds a Bachelor's degree in History and a Master's degree in Modern and Contemporary Bulgarian History from Sofia University " St. Kliment Ohridski ". Dr. Boev has a one-year specialization at the Center for Slavic-Byzantine Studies "Prof. Ivan Duychev" (2018-2019), as well as initial and specialized military training at the National University "Vasil Levski" and the Military Academy "N. Y. Vaptsarov". He has participated twice in the National Program "Young Scientists and Postdoctoral Students", module "Young Scientists" at the Ministry of Education and Science, as well as he is a member of the team of the project "Documents from the Archives of the Ecumenical Patriarchate - a source for the demographic development of the Bulgarian lands during the Renaissance" funded by the Bulgarian National Science Foundation, the Ministry of Education and Science. He is the winner of the Tthird Prize of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences for a young scientist (2021) in the field of humanitarian and social sciences named after Acad. Azaria Polikarov (for the book "Love of Science, Love of the People. Student Organizations and Associations in Bulgaria (1931-1939)" and the first prize of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences for a young

scientist (2022) in the field of humanitarian sciences named after Paisii Hilendarski (for the study "Concepts for resolving the Bulgarian refugee issue in the context of the creation of the Law on Agricultural Accommodation of Refugees in 1926").

He is fluent in French, Russian and English, and has good computer literacy.

2. Required documents for the competition and the science-metric characteristics of the submitted scientific production

The documents and materials presented by the candidate, Asst. Prof. Boris Boev PhD, meet all the requirements for admission to the competition for the academic position of Associate Professor. He has presented a habilitation monograph “Migration Policy in Bulgarian Legislation between the Two World Wars (1919 – 1939)”. Sofia, Prof. Marin Drinov Publishing House of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 2025, 198 p. This work fully meets the criteria for participation in the competition and is different in topic from his dissertation topic.

The other publications with which the candidate presents himself are a monograph based on a defended dissertation work "Love for Science, Love for the People. Student Organizations and Associations in Bulgaria (1931-1939)". S., University of Sofia "St. Kliment Ohridski", 2018, 400 p. and 12 studies, articles and reports, of which 1 - in a journal referenced in a global database and the rest - in non-refereed scientific publications with scientific review. The List of Citations lists a total of 6, of which 2 - in referenced journals in global databases. The total number of points for all groups of indicators for holding the academic position of "associate professor" is 385 points, which fulfills the minimum requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, and the Regulations of IPHS-BAS.

3. Assessment of the applicant's main contributions and overall scientific output

The research of Asst. Prof. Boris Boev PhD shows two main areas of his scientific interests: the migration policy of the Bulgarian state between the two world wars with a focus on migration legislation and the functioning of student organizations in the 1930s. The candidate shows in-depth knowledge of both issues, which is evident from his scientific contributions.

In relation to the presented habilitation thesis, Dr. Boev presents a significant study in the field of historical demography, which can serve as a basis for subsequent more in-depth regional studies. The monograph has a clear logical structure, being divided into three chapters - the first dedicated to immigration legislation related to the refugee issue, the second chapter is dedicated to emigration legislation related to mass exodus during the indicated historical

period and the third chapter - legislation related to internal migration and urban policy. The candidate is an overview and critical analysis of all the basic laws discussed and adopted in the National Assembly during the interwar period. The author uses a diverse source base with which he follows the polemics regarding the various bills. Through his work with the stenographic diaries of the National Assembly, more important conceptual discussions around the migration bills, with the participation of both the ruling and the opposition, have been sought out and subjected to systematic analysis. In this way, the similarities and differences in the positions of the parliamentary represented parties are outlined.

A new analytical approach has been applied to the study of migration legislation – through an analysis of the measures included in it and the means for their implementation, starting from the precise clarification and definition of the very concepts of "measures" and "means". Another significant contribution of the author is that the monograph examines and analyzes for the first time laws that have not been studied so far from the point of view of historical demography (and also from historical science), such as the one on the refugee loan of 1926, on the homeless of 1928, etc.

The conclusion outlines the main aspects of the state's legislative policy in the three areas, with the author's general conclusion being for constructivism and consensus in the decisions of the ruling and opposition parties against the backdrop of individual disagreements.

The presented study is of importance not only for historical science, but also for the contemporary migration policy of Bulgaria, in conditions when various migration processes are gaining ever greater dynamics and scale.

Regarding the other topic of scientific interest of Senior Assistant Professor Dr. Boris Boev – student organizations in the 1930s, his contributions can be summarized as follows: 1. Revealing the essential characteristics and activities of student organizations and associations ("movements") in the context of Bulgarian political history of the 1930s; 2. For the first time, a systematic review of the history of the various organizations of student farmers, socialists and anarchists, of their creation, organization, ideology and activities, has been made; 3. A comprehensive presentation of the various forms of student (apolitical) activity has been carried out in its full (as far as the available documents allow) diversity and significance.

The studies of Asst. Prof. Boris Boev PhD in the field of migration legislation are very relevant and may attract the interest of the wider scientific community. I also recommend expanding the perimeter of B. Boev's publications in journals with an impact factor.

Conclusion: The scientific output of Asst. Prof. Boris Plamenov Boev PhD is multifaceted and with original contributions to historical and demographic research for the historical period – between the two world wars. All this gives me reason to state that in my capacity as a member of the Scientific Jury I will vote "YES" for awarding Senior Assistant Professor Dr. Boris Plamenov Boev the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education of 2. Humanities, professional field 2.2 History and Archaeology (Historical Demography – Legislation in the field of migration policy between the two world wars), for the needs of the "Historical Demography" section at the Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences-BAS.

06.02.2026 г. **Assoc. Prof. Daniela Angelova PhD**

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