

STATEMENT

**by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Konstantin Trendafilov Konstantinov,
University of Shumen "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski"**

**in connection with a competition for the academic position of "professor"
in the field of higher education 2. Humanities, professional field
2.2. History and archeology (Medieval Bulgarian archeology)**

I. Information about the competition

The competition for the academic position of "professor" in the field of higher education 2. Humanities, professional field 2.2. History and Archeology (Medieval Bulgarian Archeology) was announced by a decision of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Humanities (Minutes № FD-02-10 / 16.04.2021) for the needs of the Department of History and Archeology in accordance with Art. 80, para. 1 of the Regulations for development of the academic staff of the University of Shumen and Art. 29a of the Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. It is announced in SG, issue 40 of 14.05.2021

One candidate has submitted documents for participation in the competition - Assoc. Prof. Stella Milcheva Doncheva.

II. General information about the candidate

Stella Milcheva Doncheva is a Doctor of History at the University of Shumen "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski" (2000), Associate Professor of Medieval Archeology at NAIM-BAS, Shumen Branch (2011), Doctor of Historical Sciences at the University of Shumen "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski" (2020).

In the period 2002-2011 Stella Doncheva headed the Department of Medieval Archeology in RIM-Shumen. Since October 2011 he has been working as an associate professor of medieval archeology at NAIM-BAS, Shumen Branch, and since 2015 he has been the head of the same scientific institution.

She specializes in Debrecen (Hungary) and London (UK). In 2016 he won the Shumen Award for contribution to the field of humanities and pedagogy.

III. Scientific production, achievements and contributions of the candidate

Assoc. Prof. Stella Doncheva participated in the competition with 3 monographs, one of which was published, 77 articles and studies in Bulgarian and foreign editions. The author does not include in her production for the competition 11 annual reports in the series "Archaeological discoveries and excavations". All submitted for review publications of the candidate are after 2011, ie. after the competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor".

In the monograph "*Moulds and matrices from the Bulgarian Middle Ages (IX-XIV century)*". V. Tarnovo, 2015, 312 p. are presented in depth a rare type of monuments of Bulgarian medieval jewelry - molds and dies, the main tool for the production of metal objects in the Middle Ages. Stella Doncheva introduces into scientific circulation a significant number of objects from the considered groups of monuments, which allows her not only to specify some controversial and unclear points about the dating, purpose and use of some of the objects included in the work, but also to express scientifically sound formulations for jewelry practice at the time.

The monograph "*Metal Art Production in Medieval Bulgaria. Jewelry craftsmanship in Bulgaria at the Middle Ages*". Lambert Academic Publishing, 2012, 161 pp. Saarbrücken is dedicated to the production of artistic metal in medieval Bulgaria. The scientific contribution of Assoc. Stella Doncheva here is expressed in the presentation not only of the technology and archaeological finds of such products, but also in the consideration of the entire production activity, presented in the following categories: Workshops; Toolkit; Metals and alloys, metallurgical analysis; Technological process.

The third monographic work "*The production of artistic metal in Bulgaria in the X century (according to data from the production centers in the vicinity of Preslav)*". Faber. Veliko Tarnovo, 2021 is published and based on the dissertation of Stella Doncheva for the award of the scientific degree "Doctor of Science". The subject of research is the rich collection of belt sets, received from the archeological excavations of the three centers for production of artistic metal from the early Bulgarian Middle Ages near Preslav - near Novosel, Zlatar and Nadarevo.

The studies and articles of Assoc. Prof. Stella Doncheva are divided into several thematic areas: Cult architecture and ritual; Production and technology of artistic metal in the Middle Ages. Small plastic items; Others. The first thematic area includes seven articles in Bulgarian, Russian and English, published in Bulgarian and Romanian editions. The second thematic area is the most significant in terms of quantity and includes a total of 60 articles and

studies in Bulgarian, Russian and English, published in Bulgarian, Moldovan, Russian and Romanian editions. The other category includes 10 publications in Bulgarian and English. In general, the production is independent, and where the publications are co-authored, the leading role of Assoc. Prof. Stella Doncheva in their development.

IV. Minimum national requirements

The presented reference for the scientific activity of the candidate on scientometric indicators has been prepared precisely and exhaustively and fully corresponds to the ones formulated in art. 2b of the Law for the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and in art. 1a, para. 1 of the Regulations for its application minimum requirements for holding the academic position "professor". St. Doncheva has defended her dissertations for Doctor and Doctor of Science (indicators 1 and 2). He participated in the competition with a total of 80 publications, of which three monographs and 77 articles and studies. Most of the publications are in referenced editions at home and abroad, which brings a total of 1028 points from indicators A, B, and D (with a minimum of 350 points). In the observed citations - indicator E, according to the presented list, the points are 240 out of the required 100. All of them are in referenced editions (indicator 12). With indicator E, Stella Doncheva is the leader of 4 international scientific projects, which collects 160 points (out of the required minimum of 100). Thus, after collecting the total number of points, it turns out that the candidate participates in the competition with a total of 1428 points (out of the required 550), which fully covers the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position of "professor".

V. Conclusion

Based on the overall analysis of the research activity and the achievements of Assoc. Prof. Stella Doncheva - the only candidate in the competition for the academic position of "professor" in the field of higher education 2. Humanities, professional field 2.2. History and Archeology (Medieval Bulgarian Archeology), announced by the University of Shumen "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski", I am convinced that Assoc. Stella Milcheva Doncheva fully meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

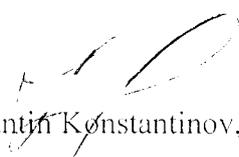
Colleague Doncheva made a significant contribution to the study of metal sculpture and cult architecture in medieval Bulgaria. Her work in the field, as well as her scientific

publications are characterized by precision, accuracy and innovation, which makes her a respected scientist at home and abroad with a high degree of citation.

All that has been said so far and especially the fact that the indicators of the scientometric data of Assoc. Prof. Stella Doncheva significantly exceeds the required minimum, giving me reason to strongly support her candidacy and to convincingly recommend to the esteemed scientific jury to award her the academic position of "professor" in the field of higher education. 2. Humanities, professional field 2.2. History and archeology (Medieval Bulgarian archeology).

30.08.2021

Shumen


/Assoc. Prof. Konstantin Konstantinov, PhD/