

UNIVERSITY OF SHUMEN  
"BISHOP KONSTANTIN PRES LAVSKI

REVIEW

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Number in the Register of Scientific Activities in the Republic of Bulgaria -  
31502

Field of Higher Education: 9. Security and Defense

Professional Direction: 9.1. National Security

of the scientific papers presented in the competition for the academic position of  
"associate professor" in the field of higher education 9. Security and Defense",  
Professional Direction 9.1. National Security (Security Systems), in the "Faculty  
of Technical Sciences" of "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski" University of  
Shumen, announced in SP no. 30/15.04.2022", to the only candidate chief  
assistant PhD. Tsvetelina Ilieva Metodieva, holding the position in the  
Department of "Management of Security Systems" at "Episkop Konstantin  
Preslavski" SHU.

Sofia, 2022

## GENERAL

This review was prepared on the basis of Order No. RD-16-128/07/08/2022, of the Rector of the Episcopal Konstantin Preslavski University of Applied Sciences, Shumen, to determine the composition of the scientific jury, for conducting the announced competition for the appointment of academic position "associate professor", in the field of higher education "9. Security and defense", in professional direction "9.1. National Security (Security Systems), in the "Faculty of Technical Sciences" of "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski" University of Shumen, announced in SP no. 30/15.04.2022", for the needs of the "Security Systems Management" Department, to the candidate chief assistant PhD. Tsvetelina Ilieva Metodieva, currently holding the position of Chief Assistant in the "Security Systems" Department, in the "Faculty of technical sciences", in the "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski" University, conducts the academic disciplines specified in the "Reference on the additional indicators under Art. 57a, para. 2 of the PPZAZSB of ch. assistant professor PhD. Tsvetelina Ilieva Metodieva" - as in 5 (five) of them during the academic year 2021-2022 she led lectures and exercises, out of the total of 9 nos. academic disciplines (in the remaining 4 academic disciplines she led exercises).

As a member of the Scientific Jury, I have received Order No. RD-16-128/07/08/2022 of the Rector of Episcop Konstantin Preslavski University, Shumen, and the documents of the participant in the competition in electronic form. The review has been deposited in the Office of Bishop Konstantin Preslavski Higher Secondary School on paper and electronic media, before the expiration of the three-month period specified in Art. 32 (1) of the "Regulations for the Implementation of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria" (PPZRASRB). When writing the review, the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), PPZRASRB (Art. 53, Art. 54 and Art. 57) were complied with to the maximum extent.

### WHICH PAPERS SUBMITTED BY THE CANDIDATE ARE ACCEPTED FOR EVALUATION BY THE REVIEWER?

The list of works that the candidate submitted for review contains a total of 19 publications (see the table below), with a total volume of 359 pages. She submitted 19 of them for review, including one monograph - habilitation work of 148 pages, 1 published book based on the dissertation work of 96 pages, articles and reports in non-refereed editions with scientific review - 17, with a total volume of 115 pages.

These listed works were not used by the candidate in the procedure for awarding the educational and scientific degree "doctor".

### **Table only in Bulgarian**

I accept all papers submitted for review. The same have been published in Bulgarian scientific publications. The assessment of the accessibility of the presented scientific production shows that it is sufficiently well presented to the specialists working in this field and all conditions are provided for familiarization with its content and subjecting it to critical analysis. Of note are three publications in English, and the author has indicated a "good" command of the English language in her autobiography. However, he clearly has the courage to present works in a foreign language, which I take as an indicator of a higher level of language proficiency and a request for other such publications in the future.

A total of 13 citations were noted, of which all 13 were in peer-reviewed articles and reports. For an assistant, the number of citations is perfectly acceptable. There are no quotes I won't accept.

The total number of points acquired from the candidate's publications is 503, with state minimum requirements of 400 points, which means that the candidate fulfills them.

The topic of the presented scientific production is in the scientific field of the announced competition. It includes analysis, synthesis, results of scientific research and good practices in the field of demographic and immigration security (an extremely important aspect of national security for our country), national security in general and in various aspects, corporate security and research on current aspects of educational and integration processes in our country.

The monograph "Migration and Demographic Balance" (habilitation thesis) has a volume of 148 pages. The presented 17 nos. articles and reports are from the candidate's participation in scientific conferences and articles in scientific publications. All papers satisfy the requirements for academic publications. They do not repeat the achievements of the author, presented for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "PhD", in accordance with the requirements of Art. 53, para. 1, item 3 of the ZRASRB.

The amount of works submitted for review and their citation meets the minimum state requirements for occupying the academic position "associate professor" under Art. 2b para. 2, item 4 and para. 3, Art. 29 of "ZRASRB" and art. 1a, para. 1 and para. 2, and art. 53, para. 1, item 4 "Minimum quantitative indicators for

occupying the academic position "associate professor" from "PPZRASRB" in the district "9. Security and defense", professional direction "9.1. National Security".

#### GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CANDIDATE'S RESEARCH-Physical, SCIENTIFIC APPLIED AND PEDAGOGICAL ACTIVITY

The candidate, chief assistant Tsvetelina Ilieva Metodieva was born on 01.10.1984 in the town of Shumen. In 2009, he graduated from Shumen University OKS "Bachelor", specialty "National Security". In the period 2015-2016, he graduated from the OCS "master", specialty "Administrative and organizational security" at the same university. In the period 2017-2020, he graduated from the ONS "Doctor" in the program "Corporate Security"

He has successively held the academic positions of "assistant" at "Episkop K. Preslavski" Universityl - 2017-2021, and from April 2021 until now he holds the position of "chief assistant" at "Episkop Konstantin Preslavski" University.

The scientific activity of the candidate since 2017 has been in the field of national and corporate security. The application of an interdisciplinary approach is characteristic.

In general, the teaching, scientific and expert activities of the candidate Metodieva are aimed at increasing the effectiveness of academic training for the needs of Bishop Konstantin Preslavski Higher Secondary School.

#### 1. OPINION REGARDING THE PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF PLAGIARISM

In the works of the candidate in the competition, I have not found any presentation of works that are wholly or partially borrowed from others, or use of scientific results published by other authors, without reference or correct citation. I am not aware of any claims made against her by other authors for improper use of their works, or of any reports of anonymous or non-anonymous plagiarism regarding the applicant's publications. There is no evidence or suspicion of plagiarism.

I have no joint publications with candidate Metodieva.

#### 2. ASSESSMENT OF THE CANDIDATE'S PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING AND ACTIVITY

The teaching activity of the candidate is 5 years and is certified by documents on the competition, which show that:

- In the period 2017-2021, he held the academic position of "assistant" at "Episkop Konstantin Preslavski" Higher Secondary School.
- From April 2021 to the present, he holds the position of "Chief assistant" at "Episkop Konstantin Preslavski" Higher Secondary School.

This is a good attestation of the candidate's teaching experience in higher education. During this period, she led the training of many students in many academic disciplines, mostly in bachelor's and master's specialties in the field of PD 9.1 National Security (management of security systems).

In general, Ts. Metodieva has proven herself to be a qualified and reliable teacher and mentor in the students' training process. Her teaching activity shows that she has the necessary pedagogical training and experience as a lecturer, leader of exercises and seminars for students.

With his overall teaching activity so far, the candidate has proven that he meets the state requirement for the fulfillment of the minimum quantitative indicators for holding the academic position "docent" (associated professor) (required 400 points, and the candidate has 503 points), in "Episkop Konstantin Preslavski" SHU, which is also evident from the presented reference.

### 3. MAIN SCIENTIFIC RESULTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

I. Evaluation of the monograph (habilitation thesis) of the candidate: "Migration and demographic balance", Shumen, University Publishing House "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski", 2022, ISBN 978-619-201-560-2.

The goal set by the author in the scientific research is to investigate the theoretical foundations of the migration processes and their influence on the demographic balance. To achieve this goal, an analysis is made of the demographic balance of EU and non-EU countries and the genesis and development dynamics of migration processes are considered, which will allow the implementation of measures and means to reduce their adverse impact on national security. The monograph has a volume of 148 pages, of which 133 are the actual exposition of the content, which is presented in three chapters.

In the first chapter - "Migration processes at the dawn of human civilization" is a historical, anthropological and anthropometric, social and socio-political synthesis of a lot of knowledge in the field of demography and migration from ancient times to the present day, incl. and analysis of the state of the problem in our country. The basic concepts and the entire toolkit of the monographic work

are introduced. With the toolkit selected in this way, conditions are created to carry out the following analyses.

In the second chapter - "Migration in the focus of public and scientific interest" theoretical-applied approaches are used, both from studies of scientifically proven data around the world, and from synthesized knowledge about migration during different eras and as a result of different reasons. Phases and phase transitions (always conflicting points of development) as well as consequences for different countries of mass migration are demonstrated.

In the third chapter "Migration flow - identity, basic laws and theorems", the author completes the actual research on the topic as logically and in an applied form develops the possible migration models of the future, proves the types of anthropotoks, their characteristics and the influence of various social and political factors on their formation. In an applied-prognostic plan, paragraph 3.2. has the most significant author contribution.

Some recommendations can be made to the proposed review work, such as a more complete analysis of some concepts - definitions, more popular explanations, in order to make it a more accessible material for the general audience. Of course, this recommendation in no way belittled the author's achievements and her scientific contributions and is not an obstacle to applying his achievements in practice.

## II. SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE CANDIDATE

The main scientific results obtained by the candidate in the works proposed for review can be summarized and generally characterized as development and addition of knowledge in a known scientific field with new views. Briefly, these contributions can be summarized and characterized in three areas as follows:

### 1. Research and analysis of demographic and migration security

- Research the essence of demographic and migration security, reflecting the close relationship between national security and the demographic crisis, regardless of the causes and external factors of influence. Publications: monograph (ISBN 978-619-201-560-2), No. 1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 16 (see List of publications of the assistant professor Dr. Tsvetelina Metodieva).
- Research and analysis of the status/absence of a comprehensive theory of migration. Publications: monograph, Nos. 10, 15, 16.
- Analyzing the adaptation and integration of migrants in the context of national security Publications: monograph, book based on the dissertation (ISBN 978-619-201-577-0), no. 2,5,10,12.

- Study of modern aspects of migration security in the Republic of Bulgaria and the EU. Types of migration, factors for migration, consequences of migration. Migration, implications for business and corporate security. Publications: monograph, book, No. 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15..

- Research and analysis of the demographic crisis in our country and in the EU. Manifestations and coping approaches. Impact on the security environment by region. Publications: monograph, Nos. 1, 2, 8, 9, 16

## 2. Philosophical-management aspects of national and corporate security.

- Research and analysis of fundamental and specific aspects of national security, both in a general philosophical sense and in specifics, mostly related to the previous contribution of the candidate. Publications: No. 2, 6, 13, 14, 15, 17 ..

- Research of policies in the management of specific crises in the Republic of Bulgaria, including demographic, migration, management, cyber-attacks. In such an aspect, the broad interests of the candidate cannot fail to be noticed. Publications: monograph, book, Nos. 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 17.

## 3. National and regional aspects of the educational and social integration of the population

- Analysis of educational needs in the modern development of this system (we emphasize that the publications are based on the candidate's participation in a national project. Publications: book, No. 4, 5, 9, 12..

- Analyzing the necessary policies for the integration of migrants (in the field of qualification and education~.

## III. ASSESSMENT OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO SCIENCE AND PRACTICE

The significance of the contributions realized by chief assistant PhD Tsvetelina Metodieva in her works is determined by their scientific and practical-applied character in the specified fields of knowledge. The research carried out by the candidate and the results obtained create the necessary conditions for implementation for the introduction into practice of new knowledge for training students and specialists in the issues of the national security of the Republic of Bulgaria. In the works of the candidate, modern, up-to-date and new knowledge is published, which is of interest to specialists working in the professional direction "9.1. National Security".

#### IV. ASSESS TO WHAT EXTENT THE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE THE CANDIDATE'S DUE

The authorship of the candidate in the presented scientific works is categorical, clear and indisputable. They are written in a specific recognizable style, vocabulary, specific terminology and manner of presentation. The sources and materials used are correctly cited. The analysis of the thematic areas of research presented in the overall scientific output of the candidate gives a clear and accurate idea of his enduring scientific interests and his authorship. The same is a reflection of candidate-specific theoretical and empirical knowledge accumulated over the years.

#### CRITICAL NOTES ON REVIEWED PAPERS

To the works presented by the candidate in the competition, some recommendations rather than critical remarks can be made to the structure of the expositions and the structure of some problems, the comprehensiveness and comprehensiveness of some analyses, the admission of insufficient scientific formulations and the scientific terminology used. We keep in mind that Tsvetelina Ilieva is a young enough researcher and teacher, there is a long enough road ahead for even these small weaknesses to be ironed out. These recommendations and notes do not affect the overall positive impression of the submitted documents for the competition.

#### PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS AND OTHER MATTERS THAT THE REVIEWER BELIEVES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED

I know candidate Tsvetelina Metodieva from participating in scientific forums and have direct impressions of her scientific work. I was a member of the scientific jury during the defense of the candidate's dissertation.

I have no direct impressions of her teaching activities. I declare my good impression of the intellect, scientific maturity, communicativeness and dedication to the scientific and teaching field.

#### V. CONCLUSION

The candidate fully meets the conditions for occupying the competitive academic position "docent" (associated professor), defined in PPZRASRB (Article 53).

#### VI. EVALUATION OF THE CANDIDATE



My complete acquaintance with the teaching, scientific and expert activity of chief assistant PhD. Tsvetelina Ilieva Metodieva gives me reason to evaluate her qualities as follows:

- Possesses the necessary abilities to competently plan, organize, lead and analyze learning processes and research work at a sufficiently high methodological level.
- The candidate's publications and developments on the subject of the announced competition are her own and original, complement and further develop the knowledge in the field of PD "9.1 National Security" (security systems), which characterize her as a fully prepared teacher and researcher.
- Its publications ensure the necessary publicity of the obtained results and enable the scientific community to become familiar with them and to evaluate the contributions received in them.
- The scientific and applied value of the results obtained by the candidate turns them into useful materials for all those who are concerned and engaged with the problems of the national and corporate security of the Republic of Bulgaria.

In accordance with Art. 53 of PPZRASRB, bearing in mind the overall teaching, expert and research activities of the candidate, **I give a general positive overall assessment of the materials and evidence presented by the candidate, and I vote positively for occupying the academic position of "associate professor"**, in the field of higher education "9. Security and defense", professional direction "9.1. National Security", in the Department of "Management of Security Systems" at the "Faculty of Technical Sciences", in "Episkop Konstantin Preslavski" University, announced in State Gazette no. 30/15/04/2022" by Dr. Tsvetelina Ilieva Metodieva.

Reviewer: .....(n)..... (signature)

Date: August 1, 2022

Prof. Dr. Ivo Velikov