

STANDPOINT

Regarding a competition announced by Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” for the academic position of Associate Professor in field 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching in... (Methodology of teaching in history) for the needs of the Faculty of History announced in the State Gazette no. 21 of March 15, 2022.

Documents for participation in the competition are submitted by one candidate: Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Krassimir Sashkov Krăstev. The Commission for review of documents has established that the submitted documents for the competition meet the regulatory requirements. No violations were committed in the competition procedure. The applicant has not only fulfilled the minimum national requirements under Art. 26 of the Law, but according to the indicators in three of the groups it has significantly exceeded them.

Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Krassimir Sashkov Krăstev graduated with a bachelor’s degree from Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, specialty “History and Geography” (1999 – 2003) and specialty “Archeology” (2001 – 2005). He graduated with a master’s degree from the same university, in the master’s program “Bulgarian Middle Ages and the Renaissance VII – XIX century” (2003 – 2005). Krassimir Krăstev defended his master's thesis on the topic: “The family of Terters (1280 – 1396). Genealogy and prosopography” with supervisor Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Georgi N. Nikolov. In the period from February 1, 2006 to February 1, 2009 he was a doctoral student at the Department of History of Bulgaria. He defended his dissertation on “Bulgaria from 1280 to 1323 (Political History, Society and Economy)” (June 25, 2009) with supervisor Acad. Vasil Gyuzelev. Since 2013 he has been a lecturer (chief assistant) in the Methodology of Teaching History at the Faculty of History of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”. In the period 2009 – 2012 he was a

part-time lecturer in Medieval Bulgarian History at the National Academy of Arts. The fact that in different years he was a teacher in several Sofia primary and secondary schools (2010 – 2013 – teacher of history and civilization in the 20th school “Todor Minkov” (in Sofia) also contributes to the qualities of Krassimir Krăstev as a teacher of history teaching methodology; 2007 – 2008 and 2009 – 2018 – teacher of history and civilization / civilizations and geography and economics at the William Shakespeare School; 2006 – 2007 – teacher of history and civilization and geography and economics at the “Language World” School).

As a lecturer Krassimir Krăstev presented a rich repertoire of lecture courses (“Methods of teaching history”, “Interactive methods in teaching”, “Chronology in teaching history and civilizations”. “Bulgarian Middle Ages: reality, hypotheses and mythologies in history textbooks”, “History of Bulgaria during the reign of the Terter dynasty (1280 – 1323)”. “History lesson”, etc.).

Very active ch. Assistant Professor Krassimir Krăstev has worked as an associate with methodological assistance to the Ministry of Education and Science (Creation of author's test tasks for DZI in History and Civilizations (2015 – 2021); participation in the National Commission for Verification and Evaluation of DZI in History and civilizations (2016 – 2021), expert evaluation of test tasks for DZI in history and civilizations in 2022, creation of author’s test tasks and criteria for evaluation of the Olympiads in history and civilizations for the period from 2020 to 2022, arbitration of the Olympiads in History and Civilizations (district round) and verification of the Olympiads in History and Civilizations (national round) in 2021 and 2022).

At the same time, along with his research and teaching activities, Krassimir Krăstev has performed various administrative tasks at the Faculty of History (He has been a member of the Academic Council of the Faculty of History since 2019; He was a member of the Publishing Council of the Faculty of History

(2018 – 2019); “Geography”, “History and Philosophy” and “Archival and Documentary Studies” (2013 – 2014).

In the last ten years Krassimir Krăstev has taken part in a number of scientific and scientific-practical forums in the field of methodology.

Deserved for his scientific achievements is Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Krassimir Krăstev was awarded the Sofia Municipality Award for Best Young Scientist at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” for 2014.

The candidate participated in the competition with 23 publications from the period 2010–2022 with original scientific contributions, which are described by him. Central to this is his habilitation work (monograph) on indicator B “The history lesson through the methods of active learning. Bulgarian Historical Heritage Foundation, ISBN: 978-954-8536-34-9, Plovdiv, 2022, 565 pp. The monograph theoretically develops 57 methods of active learning, and at the same time provides specific examples of their use in various stages and components of the lesson, which are fully consistent with modern curricula and textbooks on history and civilizations. The examples in the two chapters of the book and the three appendices at the end of it – “Lesson Structures”, “Methodological Constructor and “Methodological Developments”, show a model for the work of current and future teachers of history and civilizations. Only these two outstanding contributions make this book a must-read for Bulgarian history teachers.

Important historical contributions in the field of Bulgarian medieval studies are the publications of the candidate, marked with numbers 2, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23. They single out Krassimir Krăstev as a leading scholar in two areas of the history of the Bulgarian Middle Ages – the history of Bulgaria from the period 1279–1323 and the Bulgarian-Arab reciprocity in the Middle Ages. Krassimir Krăstev’s affinity for spring science and his attempt to

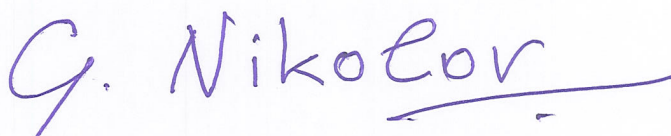
attract hitherto unused or little-known sources for Bulgarian medieval history are lasting and professional.

A careful review of the publications shows that they do not contain elements of plagiarism and compilation. Moreover, as an author, Krassimir Krăstev shows a desire to bring something new and original in each of his publications. Another distinctive feature that the candidate has is his scientific precision and textual accuracy. The scientific apparatus used in his publications distinguishes him as one of the most conscientious Bulgarian historians.

Krassimir Krăstev is a recognizable person in the teaching circles not only in Sofia, but throughout Bulgaria. His publications and practical classes with teachers and students contribute to raising the teaching of history to a high methodological level and at the same time making this discipline a desirable goal for the realization of young people as scientists, researchers and teachers.

Everything said so far allows us to conclude that in the face of Krassimir Krăstev we see a serious scientist, professional historian and talented teacher. Based on the overall review of the educational and scientific activity and the indicated contributions from the publications on the competition, I am convinced of my opinion that **Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Krassimir Sashkov Krăstev** fully deserves to hold the academic position of “Associate Professor” in the professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of History Teaching (Methodology of History Teaching) for the needs of the Department of Archival Science and Methodology of History Teaching at the Faculty of History of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”.

Sofia, June 14, 2022



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