

## RESUME

Only one candidate has applied to participate in the announced competition for professor - Assoc. Prof. Georgi Nikolov. He presented the required number of references and documents / 18 in total /, which meet the requirements of the law. This can be seen from the attached reference for the implementation of the minimum national requirements for the scientific field of History of Medieval Bulgaria. Assoc. Prof. Georgi Nikolov has 35 years of scientific and teaching activity. He became a graduate student at the Ivan Duychev Center in 1986. Since 1990 he has passed through all stages of his university teaching career at Sofia University "Kliment Ohridski" - assistant 1990, senior assistant 1994, chief assistant 1997 and associate professor from 2011 to the current 2022. His long teaching experience at Sofia University includes conducting seminars on medieval Bulgarian history, as well as reading lectures and specialized courses for bachelors and masters in various specialties of the Faculty of History. His long-term multifaceted teaching activity is a serious reason to conclude that Assoc. Prof. Georgi Nikolov is a mature and experienced lecturer who fully meets the conditions to be awarded the academic position of "professor". The reason for this conclusion is also the volume and value of the scientific production with which he appears in this competition - a monograph and 32 publications, 11 of which in a foreign language.

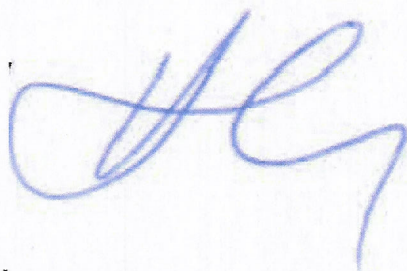
The monograph is entitled "Excerpts from the history of Samuil's Bulgaria". It is the result of his many years of research on this dramatic period of our medieval history and a natural continuation of his activities on centralism and regionalism in the Bulgarian Middle Ages. The general impression left by the monograph is that it is based on excellent knowledge of the source material and comprehensive historiographical awareness. The necessary criticism of some effective but difficult to prove hypotheses has been shown. At the same time, the defended scientific positions are substantiated by strong evidence, some of which for the first time find a place in the scientific research dedicated to Tsar Samuil and his era.

The attached 32 publications for the competition thematically address several main areas. The first of them is related to the history of Samuil's Bulgaria and examines issues related to the sources for the period and activities of individuals, as well as the assessment of Tsar Samuil and his successors in historiography. Another thematic area covers the restoration of the Bulgarian

state and the activities of the brothers Assen and Peter. Very important are the conclusions made about the existing undoubted continuity between Samuil's Bulgaria and the Bulgarian state restored in 1185. The third thematic area is dedicated to fundamental issues related to the Christianization of the Bulgarians, the fate of Knyaz Boris I and his successors Tsar Simeon and Tsar Peter. The concrete analysis of the scientific work of Assoc. Prof. G. Nikolov shows that the contributions made are his personal achievements. They are characterized by high professionalism, combined with respect for the rich historiographical heritage in the field of the Bulgarian Middle Ages.

The research activity of Assoc. Prof. G. Nikolov after 2011 is also related to his participation with scientific reports at a number of international conferences in Bulgaria and abroad. In addition, he has written textbooks, compiled collections, authored popular science articles, reviews and biobibliographies of Bulgarian and foreign scientists. The fact that from 2009 to the present day Assoc. Prof. G. Nikolov is a referent for Bulgarian medieval studies in such a prestigious magazine as "Byzantinische Zeitschrift" should be appreciated. It is also important to put an emphasis on the fact that Assoc. Prof. G. Nikolov is Chairman of the Macedonian Scientific Institute and gives his undoubted personal contribution to defending the scientific truth about the fate of the Bulgarian lands in Macedonia over the centuries.

Considering the long-term teaching activity of Assoc. Prof. G. Nikolov at Sofia University, his indisputable scientific contributions in the field of medieval studies and last but not least his active public activity in the field of historical science and education, I strongly recommend the esteemed members of the scientific jury to award Assoc. Prof. Georgi Nikolov the academic position of Professor. He fully deserves it.



Sofia, June 06, 2022 Prof. Petar Angelov