

OPINION

- *by Prof. Dr. Habil Georgi Kolev, Ph.D., Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen, e-mail: rector@shu.bg, professional field 1.2. Pedagogy in the area of: 1. Pedagogical Sciences*
- *on the PhD thesis submitted to fulfill the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Ethnology, professional field 3.1. Sociology, Anthropology and Cultural Studies*
- **Candidate: Kaloyan Valeriev Angelov**
A Ph.D. student at the Ethnology Department within the Faculty of History, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"
- **PhD Thesis on: ETHNOPSYCHOLOGICAL MODEL OF COORDINATED AND EDUCATIONALLY RELATED POLICIES IN BULGARIA (1989-2019)**
- **Supervisor: Prof. Irina Koleva Koleva, Ph.D.**

❖ **General overview of the procedure and the applicant**

Kaloyan Angelov's PhD thesis has been submitted to be discussed by the academic staff at a preliminary meeting of the Department of Ethnology, Faculty of History, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" according to requirements of the *Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria* and its accompanying regulations. The procedure was started in compliance with the *Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria* and its accompanying regulations.

The PhD student has submitted the necessary documents related to the procedure. He has submitted a dissertation, consisted of 310 pages, 19 pages of which are appendices. The bibliography includes 106 items, 79 of which are sources in Cyrillic, 27 - in Latin. The appendices include a questionnaire, a stakeholder assessment questionnaire, a list of respondents and four excel files, 2.60 MB in size, representing quantitative statistical results of the survey. A total number of 24 figures are included in the dissertation. It consists of an introduction, four chapters, contributions and a conclusion.

The minimum required points by groups of indicators correspond to those required for awarding the educational and academic degree of Doctor adopted by the Faculty of History at Sofia University, and namely: Group of indicators A - 50 points (dissertation) and Group of indicators D - 30 points (publications).

❖ **Overview of the thesis**

The dissertation presented is in the field of ethnology, ethnopedagogy and ethnopsychology in the context of educational interaction. In my opinion, the topic of the thesis is up-to-date and relevant from a scientific and corrective point of view of the national framework for

education, training and learning 2021 - 2030 of the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science, the Incheon Declaration on Education 2030 "Towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all", and the detailed strategy of Education and Skills Priority is developed by the National Programme for Development BG 2030.

❖ *Assessment of the scientific and applied research results*

➤ *Problem Statement*

The theoretical analysis is in-depth including thorough research in each chapter of the dissertation. The importance of parameterizing the ethnopsychological and ethnopedagogical aspects for typology of restrictions leading to unequal access to quality education for students in disadvantaged ethno-social situation of Roma origin is outlined.

➤ *Methodology of Research*

The methodology applied in the dissertation is based on the desk research of documents and data related to the topic. A comparative analysis of empirical data from two nationally based studies was made. The methodology of work includes situational analysis, when considering models and practices for coordination and educational policies in Bulgaria in the period of 1989-2019, in relation to the educational integration of students of Roma origin in Bulgaria; SWOT of European and Bulgarian documents related to the educational integration of Roma students in Bulgaria. A detailed information of a case study held in the village of Kukorevo is also provided. 49 interviews with recipients were conducted, as well as a survey conducted on a national level including representatives of educational institutions and stakeholders.

❖ *Scientific and applied research contributions*

The dissertation has the characteristics of a scientific and applied research. The theoretical and empirical model based on the reflective approach /according to I. Koleva/ has been adapted. It aims at preventing the ethno-psychological and ethno-pedagogical markers for accessing the quality education.

⚡ *The main contributions include:*

➤ *Theoretical plan:*

- Systematized survey data including SWOT of European and Bulgarian documents related to school education of the Roma ethnic community in Bulgaria
- Existing data are systematized on the basis of theoretical analysis of ethnological sources regarding the specifics of the Roma ethnic community in Bulgaria
- A functional analysis of the applied educational policies in our country during the specified time period has been performed.

➤ ***Research/ Empirical Plan:***

- An empirical analysis of the conducted observation regarding the educational integration of students of Roma origin in Bulgaria was performed.
- An empirical statistical analysis of questionnaires conducted among pedagogical and non-pedagogical specialists from eleven schools and an assessment of stakeholders in Bulgaria in regard to the pedagogical activities in intercultural education in the following areas: Sofia, Sofia region, Burgas, Plovdiv and Vratsa /Valchedrum/ was performed.
- A reflective situational analysis of in-depth interviews with representatives of educational institutions, administration and non-governmental organizations related to the educational integration of Roma students in Bulgaria was conducted.
- A theoretical model of formation of educational policies in the field of intercultural education has been adapted.
- Measures for prevention of ethnopsychological obstacles for presenting the reflective approach in coordinated and educational policies in our country are proposed.

❖ ***Assessment of the dissertation publications***

The PhD student **Kaloyan Valeriev Angelov** has four publications on the topic of the dissertation. The publications are published in significant scientific publications of the University publishing houses, such as Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski ", Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen / collection of reports from a scientific and practical conference and a study in a prestigious scientific Journal of Social and Humanities Sciences Research, 8 (74). They reflect the thesis set in the dissertation.

The dissertation is own author's research, which introduces the doctoral student as a researcher with reflexive value-oriented behavior identical to the performed research.

❖ ***Overview of the thesis and the author's summary***

The author's summary of the thesis correctly reflects and synthesizes the structure and essence of the dissertation. It represents the basic scientific paradigms, thesis and conceptual conclusions stated in the dissertation.

❖ ***Critical Remarks and Recommendations***

In my opinion Kaloyan Angelov should have to approbate the theoretical and empirical model discussed at local level in one of the areas investigated by him.

In conclusion, I declare that, on the basis of the above mentioned, the attached documentation regarding his publications, his contributions and personal qualities, as well as his academic and professional orientation in the field of ethnological sciences as regards his publication activity and the citation of his works fulfil the requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and its accompanying regulations. I

recommend to the **Academic Selection Committee** to vote positively for awarding the educational and academic degree of Doctor of Ethnology to **Kaloyan Valeriev Angelov** in the area of ***Ethnology- Ethnopsychology of Educational Interaction, professional field 3.1. Sociology, Anthropology and Cultural Studies.***

28.06.2022

Sofia

Prepared by:

(Prof. Dr. Habil  PhD)