

## OPINION

by *Prof. Dr. Yuri Todorov Todorov*, Faculty of History of the Sofia University "St. Kl. Ohridski", department of Archival Studies and History Teaching Methodology, member of the scientific jury, appointed by order of the Rector

RD 38-101/14.2.2023

about the dissertation entitled:

**Kirila Vazvozova-Karateodorova: creative path, archival resources**

for the awarding of the "Doctor" grade, professional direction

2.2. History and archeology - Documental studies, archival studies, paleography (Archival studies)

of *Radina Ivo Bozhilova*, doctoral student at the Department of Archival Studies and History Teaching Methodology of the Faculty of History, Sofia University "St. Kl. Ohridski", research supervisor

*Prof. Dr. Anna Kostadinova Kochankova*

Radina Bozhilova's dissertation is based on documentary resources about the life and work of Kirila Vazvozova, a well-known archeographer and archivist-researcher, known for her work in the Bulgarian Historical Archive at the Cyril and Methodius National Library. The candidate aims to carry out a complex study, especially on the work and activities of Vazvozova. Particularly important is the question of determining the methodical contribution of Vazvozova to the search, publication and popularization of documents about Bulgarian history. This should be done by reviewing the BIA documentary releases. Another important question, which is at the center of the dissertation, is about the activity of Vazvozova to build the legislative basis of the archival field in our country.

The dissertation has an optimal structure and voluminous parts, it is divided into an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, sources and literature, an appendix, as well as a list of used abbreviations. Analyzing archival funds of the Central State Archives, of the National Library "St. Cyril and Methodius", of the Scientific Archive of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the Archive of the Sofia University and the Capital State Archive, the candidate reveals archival evidence for the career development of K. Vazvozova. Her appearance as an administrator and organizer of the modern archival system in Bulgaria, as a modern archivist and archeographer has been successfully described. Particularly valuable in archival and methodological terms is the archival inventory, which includes the discovered documents about Vazvozova's family environment and activities, regardless of where they were found and stored. Descriptions are grouped thematically and accompanied by annotations and claim data. A full review of the documentary editions prepared with the participation of K. Vazvozova was made. Her contributions to the creation of the printed database of Bulgarian historical science are analyzed. The documents are the main starting point for researching the work of K. Vazvozova as an administrator, the main participant in the processes of modernization of the archives in Bulgaria. In addition, particularly interesting and complementary to the studied documentary resources is the presentation of records from the memories of Vazvozova's colleagues from BIA using the oral history method. Thus, through the combination of different approaches, the doctoral student achieves a comprehensive view of life, the activity of Vazvozova, and the set scientific tasks are fulfilled by Radina Bozhilova convincingly successfully.

The evaluation for the doctoral student according to the minimum national requirements and the mandatory criteria of SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" can be made with the attached reference in accordance with Art. 2b of ZRASRB for the scientific field 2.2. History and archaeology. The indicators of group A and

group B have been fulfilled with the required number of articles and participation in scientific conferences according to the appendix - a total of 120 points.

What has been written so far leads to my categorical conclusion that the dissertation of Radina Bozhilova represents an important scientific study with highlighted contributing points. Therefore, I give my opinion **in favor of the election of Radina Ivo Bozhilova in the educational and scientific degree "doctor"** for professional direction 2.2. History and archaeology.

28/04/2023

Yuri Todorov