

# Review

**By prof. Dr. Pepa Miteva**

(Burgas Free University)

in a competition for the academic position "Associate Professor",  
field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, vocational field 1.2. Pedagogy  
(Preschool and Primary School Pedagogy, Media Pedagogy), announced by  
Burgas Free University in SG. 82/14.10.2022.

The competition for "Associate Professor" in Pedagogy (Preschool and Primary School Pedagogy, Media Pedagogy) was announced for the needs of Burgas Free University with a single candidate. ace. Dr. ZLATINA GEORGIEVA DIMITROVA, lecturer at the Center for Humanities at BFU.

Zlatina Dimitrova has been Assistant Professor of Education at BFU since March 2022, while at the same time she is a part-time lecturer in the methodology of teaching Bulgarian language and literature in stage I – IV grade at the University of Veliko Tarnovo "St. Kliment Ohridski". St. Cyril and Methodius". Her professional experience includes work as a primary school teacher, journalist, editor-in-chief at Yantra Press AD, Veliko Tarnovo, Yantra DNES newspaper, journalist Correspondent of TV "Europe" for Veliko Tarnovo region and others. The acquired professional competences largely correspond to the academic interests of Ch. ace. Dr. Zlatina Dimitrova. The candidate in the competition is also a "doctor" in the scientific specialty "Methodology of Teaching Bulgarian Language and Literature /I-IV grade/.

Zlatina Dimitrova's professional qualification is enriched by her experience at the Center for Media Development – Sofia and the Department of Visual Journalism at the Knight Center for International Media at the University of Miami, USA (2010); certificates of completed training for the creative use of new technologies in reflecting minority and diversity issues; Master's degree in Theology at the University of Veliko Tarnovo "St. St. Cyril and Methodius" (1998).

Zlatina Dimitrova is distinguished by pleasant social skills and competences, skills for teamwork and cooperation, administrative and skills for coordination of

students' academic work. In the team of CHN of BFU adapted imperceptibly and at the same time with a number of participations that awakened the interest of students and lecturers – creation and one consecutive initiation of activities in the Student Club "Mission Teacher" (2022).

Ch. ace. Dr. Zlatina Dimitrova is a lecturer in the Bachelor's and Master's degree at Burgas Free University, where she presents her own courses and programs, correctly described in the competition documentation. In the specialties "Preschool and Primary School Pedagogy" and "Primary School Pedagogy and Foreign Language" is positioned with lectures on digital competence and digital culture. In the specialty "Journalism and Public Relations" – lectures and exercises in press journalism; lectures and exercises on information competence in communications; lectures and exercises in online communications and social networks and in the specialty "Psychology" – exercises in creative techniques. Zlatina Dimitrova's academic activity meets the standards of the competition and her research interests are in the field of: "pedagogy; media education; digital competences and digital creativity; methodology of teaching Bulgarian language and literature at the initial stage of the basic educational level; professional-practical training of students pedagogues; modern educational technologies in education; media and business communications; "The language of the media."

The presented so far does not exhaust the interests of the participant in the competition – they are complemented by artistic and creative activities – participation in international and national scientific conferences with reports, articles and studies; project and expert activities, membership in the Union of Bulgarian Journalists and the Syndicate of Bulgarian Teachers.

In the structure of Zlatina Dimitrova's scientific output, titles stand out: titles after acquiring the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" (2021 – 2023) - 13 pcs. (developed independently); participation with reports in scientific and scientific-practical conferences - 5 pcs.; articles and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information - 2 pcs.; articles and reports published in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes - 8 pcs.; studies published in non-refereed journals with scientific review - 1 pc.; monograph - 1 pc. and a book based on a defended dissertation - 1 pc.

The presented monography under the competition: "Digital Transformation – Competence and Creativity in Kindergarten and School" (EX PRESS – Gabrovo) has a total volume of 232 pages. It contains four main chapters, conclusion, literature and documents. In addition to the pedagogical aspects of forming digital competence and creativity in kindergarten and primary school, the work also

presents an analysis of the trends for digitalization in our country, through the prism of digital education in the world. A special place was found for the typology of children "Alpha", as well as their socialization, studied with author's methodology for students parents and teachers. Contributing to the broad theoretical and practical application of scientific development are "pedagogical approaches to the formation of digital competence and creativity combined with project-based learning" – a modern view of the possibilities of education to correspond to the dynamics of the student personality and environment.

The thematic orientation of the candidate is entirely oriented towards modern, innovative education, followed with practicability, competent approach and emphasized personal interpretation.

The topics highlighted in the presented work on the competition are provocative - they also raise a number of questions about the ability of children, parents and teachers to achieve digital transformation.

*In this regard, I would like to address the following question to the applicant:*

- 1. What are the opportunities of modern education to respond adequately to the dynamic changes and situations of uncertainty in the apparent discrepancies in the pace of digitalization of the different subjects in the process – students, teachers, parents?*

I accept the scientific contributions of Ch. ace. Dr. Zlatina Dimitrova in the competition in professional field 1.2. Pedagogy (Preschool and Primary School Pedagogy, Media Pedagogy), announced by Burgas Free University.

The analysis made in the scope of research, scientific and teaching activities of Zlatina Dimitrova presents her as a professional, purposeful researcher with sustainable scientific interests.

The follow-up of the submitted documents gives me grounds to express my positive opinion on the election of Zlatina Dimitrova as "Associate Professor" in Pedagogy", professional field 1.2. Pedagogy (Preschool and primary school pedagogy, media pedagogy).

05 February 2023  
Sofia

Signature:.....  
(Prof. Dr. Pepa Miteva)