

БЪЛГАРСКА АКАДЕМИЯ НА НАУКИТЕ ИНСТИТУТ ЗА ИСТОРИЧЕСКИ ИЗСЛЕДВАНИЯ	
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Opinion

by Assoc. Prof. Yura Konstantinova, DSc.

on the scholarly work of Assoc. Prof. Rositsa Stoyanova, PhD

in relation to her participation in the competition for the academic position of a professor

Assoc. Prof. Rositsa Stoyanova is a well-established specialist in the field of modern Bulgarian history with lasting interests in the development of the party and political system, in the evolution of cooperatives and institutions in Bulgaria. This is evidenced by her Ph. D. thesis and her habilitation paper dedicated to the development and policy of the Democratic Party in the Interwar period. Her studies on the prominent but insufficiently researched Bulgarian politicians Alexandar Malinov, Teodor Teodorov, Mihail Madzharov, etc. are particularly valuable. They stand out both with the respect for the personal choices and life destinies of her characters, and with the attitude towards the document and the facts in it. Every professional historian builds his research on documentary material but few take on the unrewarding task of publishing the sources they use. The large number of documentary publications, either her own or in collaboration with Prof. Veska Nikolova, constitute the foundation underlying the scholarly works of Assoc. Prof. Stoyanova. We refer to over 800 pages of publications of sources, ferreted out in various Bulgarian archival repositories with reference notes, additional information about events, personalities and names mentioned in them.

Special attention should be attached to the monographic study *Shared responsibility. Civil Society Organizations, the State and Public Care Institutions in Bulgaria (1878-1939)*, (*Spodelenata otgovornost. Gazhdanskite organizacii, dyrzhawata i institutsiite za obshtestveni grizhi v Bugaria (1878-1939)*) where Assoc. Prof. R. Stoyanova is the author of two of the chapters (over 150 pages in total), co-author of the preface and conclusions and participant in the compilation of the appendices. It is a first attempt in Bulgarian historiography to perform a comprehensive research of the development and achievements of public charity in Bulgaria. With this publication Assoc. Prof. R. Stoyanova and Prof. V. Nikolova have become pioneers in the elaboration of the issue of the place and role of charity in Bulgaria from the end of the 19th century till the mid-20th century.

The many years of work dedicated by Assoc. Prof. R. Stoyanova to the topic of donation, combined with her interest in political history, have made her one of the most erudite specialists in the field of modern Bulgarian history, who knows in detail the network of connections and emotions that underlie political decisions. This knowledge is evident in 33 studies and articles written in the period 2005-2020 with which she participates in the current competition. It is worth noting the significant contribution of Assoc. Prof. Stoyanova to two encyclopaedic editions: *The Parliamentarians from Rousse 1878-1946, 2011 (Rusenskite parlamentaristi 1878-1946)* Rousse, 2011 and *Women in the History of Academic Science in Bulgaria (Women with High Academic Ranks in the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences)* Sofia, 2018 (*Zhenite v istoriyata na akademichnite nauki v Bulgaria (Habilitiranite zheni v BAN)*) Sofia, 2018. An irrefutable proof of the usefulness of the studies of Assoc. Prof. R. Stoyanova and of the prestige they enjoy in the scholarly community is the high number of references to her works, the numerous projects in which she is involved and the prestigious publications of which she is the compiler and editor.

All the above justify my opinion that Assoc. Prof. Rositsa Stoyanova has the necessary scholarly qualities and meets the requirements for the academic position of a "Professor". As a member of the panel of scholars I will vote in favour of a proposal for her selection by the Scholarly Council of the Institute of Historical Research.

Sofia, 19 August 2020

Assoc. Prof. Yura Konstantinova, DSc.