

БЪЛГАРСКА АКАДЕМИЯ НА НАУКИТЕ ИНСТИТУТ ЗА ИСТОРИЧЕСКИ ИЗСЛЕДВАНИЯ	
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REPORT

of Prof. D.Sc. Tamara Stoilova
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Professional field 2.2. History and archeology

for the works of Assoc. prof. D.Sc. Teodorichka Gotovska-Henze
candidate in the announced competition for professor at the Institute for Historical Research at
the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Professional field 2.2. History and archeology

D.Sc. Teodorichka Gotovska-Henze is an associate professor at the Institute for Historical Research at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. He leads and participates in research projects of the Institute for Historical Research and other scientific institutions in the country, in the Czech Republic, in Slovakia, in Hungary, in Ukraine. Associate Professor Gotovska-Henze's research interests cover several major issues in the field of historical Slavic studies and the wars of the early 20th century. Two articles present problems from the modern history of the Czechs.

Associate Professor Gotovska-Henze's research on Slavic issues has been developed on archival and published documents and a significant number of studies on the subject. On this basis, many important facts about the development of Slavic studies in Russia and the Czech Republic are revealed, including the interest of Russian and Czech Slavic scholars in Bulgarians. An important element in the proposed research is the development of interest in the Slavs, their language and history. Special attention is paid to scientific programs and the establishment of departments for the study and teaching of Slavic languages and the history of the Slavs at Russian universities in the 30s and 40s of the 19th century. The guarantee for the good professional training of the first Russian academic Slavists O. Bodyansky, I. Sreznevsky, P. Price and V. Grigorovich is their stay abroad, where they get acquainted with the culture and language of the Slavic peoples. The meetings with the Czech Slavists were extremely valuable for them during these business trips. By consistently revealing the work and teaching activities of Russian Slavists, Gotovska-Henze pays special attention to their attitude towards Bulgarian students at Russian universities, to the help they provide in their scientific growth. In this regard, I must mention the study of Marin Drinov, a student of O. Bodyansky and "a worthy successor to Russian academic Slavic studies."

Marin Drinov's stay in Prague and his communication with the Czech Slavists played an important role in his professional development. The connection with the conservative circles of the People's Party is important for Drinov's activity on the establishment of the Bulgarian Literary Society and for the organized sending of Czech educators to the Bulgarian schools. Associate Professor Gotovska-Henze rightly notes the merit of Marin Drinov for attracting Konstantin Irecek to the Bulgarian cause. A separate article is dedicated to his life and career. However, the author's attention is focused primarily on the professional path of his grandfather Pavel Josef Shafarik.

Known for his interdisciplinary method of studying the Slavs, Shafarik has special merits for discovering the Bulgarians and recognizing them as one of the Slavic peoples. An interesting fact in connection with the study of modern Bulgarian dialects is the contact sought by Shafarik with the Bulgarian emigrants in Transylvania and with the Bulgarian merchants. Teodorichka Gotovska-Henze also reveals his work on inter-Slavic cooperation. Bulgarians also joined this

process in the 1840s. Here we should mention the article about V. Aprilov as "architect of the Bulgarian cultural and educational corridors", as well as the mention of Ivan Bogorov as one of the Odessa Bulgarians and a probable observer during the Slavic Congress in Prague in 1848.

Focusing his attention above all on Shafarik, Associate Professor Gotovska-Henze does not fail to present the circle of professional Czech Slavists and their research.

Gotovska-Henze's research on the Balkan War of 1912 and the First World War, with which the work of the Czech journalist Vladimir Sis is connected, is of indisputable interest. The events in the Balkans in 1912 are presented against the background of European politics and their projection on the mood of the Czech nation. The credit for informing the Czechs undoubtedly goes to the *Narodni Listi* newspaper and to the correspondent from the scene Vladimir Sis. Karel Kramarž became an expression of the attitude of the Czechs towards the war, whose parliamentary speeches Gotovska-Henze analyzed in detail.

Vladimir Sis's activity in Bulgaria is presented in detail in a collection dedicated to the centenary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia (co-authored with V. Rogozenski) and in the second part of the monograph "Czech-Bulgarian Cooperation in Education and Politics". I will mention two main problems: during the First World War, during the period of Bulgarian neutrality, Vladimir Sis was in contact with the representatives of the Entente in Sofia; the action organized by Sis in support of the government in Prague after the changes in Czechoslovakia in 1918. It must be concluded that as a journalist and "unofficial diplomat" Vladimir Sis defended the national cause of the Czechs, but also the idea of Slavic unity.

Historiographical in nature and with much specificity on the topic is the article on Hungarian research on the First World War, published in *Publikationen der Ungarischen Geschichtsforschung*, Bd. XIV, Vien, 2015.

The result of the collaboration of Associate Professor Gotovska-Henze with Czech colleagues is the collective monograph "Sounáležitostí a soudržností k vzájemnému pozná(vá)ní", Praha, 2021, in which the authors are also M. Cherni and L. Solenkova. The text by Teodorička Gotovska-Henze is entitled "Česko-bulharská spolupráce v oblasti odgoělávání a politiky" (Czech-Bulgarian Cooperation in Education and Politics) (pp. 423-548). Along with many details, the first part of her research is a summary of the Bulgarian and Czech Enlightenment, which grew into national struggles in two different in nature, but foreign to the Slavs in their empires.

The main problems on which the author focuses are reflected in the title of the first part of the study – "Modernization of Bulgarian education in the context of Slavic exchange (until 1878)" (pp. 425-528). The aim of the research is "to present more systematically the Bulgarian strategy for education of Bulgarians abroad (specifically in the Czech lands), the residence and education of our students in the context of Slavic exchange and the role of Bulgarian-Czech reciprocity for the educational progress of Bulgarians during the National Revival". (p. 425)

The school systems of Czechs and Bulgarians in the 18th and 19th centuries are presented in a comparative plan, the factors that are decisive for the national peculiarities and for the advanced development of the Czech educational system. The role of V. Aprilov as "architect of the educational "corridors" of the Bulgarians" was emphasized, the contributions of Shafarik and Pogodin, of the Bulgarians of Odessa, of the Slavic charities in Moscow and St. Petersburg for the education of Bulgarians in Russian universities were traced. The social and educational processes in the Czech lands are connected with the moods among the Czech pupils and students, with the gradual inclusion of Bulgarians in the educational and revolutionary process. A place is

given to the Bulgarian-Czech cooperation in the educational process, the inclusion of Czech activists in the Bulgarian educational and national movement and the expansion of educational and public relations of Czechs and Bulgarians. As a result, the number of Bulgarian boys and girls who study in Prague, Tabor, Pisek, Hradec Kralove is growing.

Special attention deserves the presentation of the educational project of Hr. G. Danov, whose ultimate goal is “to support the accelerated creation of a national intelligentsia”. As a “comprehensive plan for the enlightenment of the nation”, the project is democratic, with a clear goal to raise the general educational level of Bulgarians, regardless of their social status.

The study ends with a documentary appendix: “From the speech of Pavel Josef Shafarik at the Slavic Congress in Prague, June 2, 1848.”

The indisputable scientific contributions in the presented research, as well as the coverage of the minimum points required by NACID for the academic position "Professor" are grounds to propose to the Scientific Council of the Institute for Historical Research at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences to elect Associate Professor Ph.D. Teodorichka Gotovska-Henze as a professor at the Institute, Department of World History in Modern and Contemporary Times.

May 20, 2022, Sofia