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| БЪЛГАРСКА АКАДЕМИЯ НА НАУКИТЕ<br>ИНСТИТУТ ЗА ИСТОРИЧЕСКИ ИЗСЛЕДВАНИЯ                        |                                    |
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## A Scientific Standpoint

**of Prof. Teodoritschka Gotovska-Henze, DSc., .**  
**at the Institute for Historical Research – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences**

*on the PhD. Inna Manasieva Application for*  
*Associate Professor Position Competition*

### **2.2. History and Archeology (Department New and Newest History – The Ukrainians and Ukraine in Europe's History)**

I have followed Inna Manasieva,s professional development since the very beginning. She started at our Department in the year 2000, when she began her work on the PhD Thesis. After a successful Promotion, in 2005 (already as an assistant Professor), she became a full staff member. Her position was upgraded in 2010 to Senior Assistant Professor. During these years the young scholar was very active and has become fully incorporated in our staff's work. She participated in a couple of national and international conferences organized by our Department (in some of them also as a member of the organization board), became part of the joint Bulgarian-Ukrainian Historical Commission and took part in a several Institute's Scientific Projects (both national and international).

Manasieva scientific interests concern a broad thematic spectrum. First research field are Bulgarian -Ukrainian relations during 20th and 21th Century. She has published studies on cultural and political relationships, with a special research on the main leaders from the both sides. On the other side, her contributions to the complex analysis of the bilateral contacts in the larger European political context, especially during the First World War, are not to be ignored.

One important scientific contribution is the research on the Bulgarian settlers in South Ukraine. This topic is investigated in its dynamic development from the end of the 19th Century up to the first part of the 20th Century, based on (partly) new and unknown sources. Thus, a new knowledge is brought to the Bulgarian scientific public.

Manasieva latest monograph *Ukrainian Question in Bulgaria during the First World War* (Marin Drinov Publishing House, Sofia 2023) is a clear proof for the young scholars scientific development and professional skills. The study is based on published (predominantly Ukrainian and thus not yet known in Bulgaria) and unpublished archival materials (from the Central State Archive - Sofia, BAS Scientific Archive, Bulgarian Historical Archive at Cyril Method National Library). This topic has not yet been investigated as a whole by Bulgarian historians and only partly by the Ukrainian. The monograph consists of an introduction, three chapters (arranged chronologically, but also thematically), a conclusion and a list of publications, names and geographical sites list. The structure is balanced; the main objectives, chronological framework and review of the main collective and individual studies are clearly stated. In addition, press information and memoirs are used. The Bulgarian and the Ukrainian policy makers activities are presented and tentatively and balanced analyzed.

The subject provides an opportunity to trace the bilateral cultural and political relations during the very crucial time of the First World War. I consider it appropriate that the monograph systematically reviews the stages in the development of the world conflict and the role the two peoples played in it, emphasizing the more dramatic fate of the Ukrainians. The thesis follows the war dynamics and the background of changes in the international politics, the main conclusion being that the Ukrainians hopes to get European support for national independence as exchange for inclusion into the new-formed East

European anti-Bolshevik Front ( as Poles and Finns successfully did) proved to be vain.

The Publications list is impressive, there are a lot of studies, published both in Bulgarian and in Ukrainian. The other required for the scientific competition documents are properly prepared, and the quotation amount is sufficient for the applied Associate-Professor position.

All these arguments convince me to vote positively and to recommend PhD. Senior Assistant Inna Manasieva for Associate- Professor position at the Department of World History and History of International Relations in New and Contemporary Times. She would be a very well prepared specialist on a region where the history is still in action.

Sofia, 18.10.2023

Signature:

Prof. Teodoritschka Gotovska-Henze, Dsc.