

REVIEW

from

assoc. prof. Margarita Dimitrova Stankova, MD, PhD

New Bulgarian University, 7.4 Public Health

on the scientific work for participation in a competition for the academic

position of associate professor, in professional field 3.4 Psychology,

announced by the New Bulgarian University in SN no. 41/10.05.2024,

with a candidate

ch. assist. prof. Nadia Hristova Koltcheva, Ph.D

I. Assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements and the requirements of the New Bulgarian University

Dr. Nadya Kolcheva graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" in 2000, Master's degree in Psychology at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" with specializations in: Clinical and Counseling Psychology; Developmental, Educational and Cultural Psychology; Social Psychology in 2001 and Doctoral Program General Psychology (Experimental Psychology), code 06.05.01 Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Philosophy, Department of "General, Experimental and Genetic Psychology" with a Dissertation on the topic "Psychological assessment of typical children and children with developmental disorders" (Adaptation and standardization of a test battery for the assessment of early childhood development - DAYC (Developmental Assessment of Young Children).

In 2008, Dr. Nadya Kolcheva graduated with a Master's degree, Human Resources Management and Development, School of Management, New Bulgarian University with a thesis on: Development and training of human resources in higher education institutions (teaching staff). Comparative analysis of European practices and from 2008.

She is a Registered Psychologist with the Society of Psychologists in Bulgaria and a member of the European Federation of Psychologists' Associations (EFPA).

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva completed specializations in Great Britain, the Netherlands and Poland. As a professional, she has completed numerous additional qualification courses in the field of psychology, and in her professional role, in addition to her role as a teacher and researcher in the field of developmental psychology, pedagogical psychology and clinical psychology, she performed numerous consulting engagements in foundations and research teams and expert work to public organizations and centers.

The materials presented by Dr. Nadya Kolcheva - publications, citations and science metric indicators show compliance with the minimum national requirements and the requirements of the NBU. They exceed the minimum national and additional requirements of the New Bulgarian University for the academic position "associate professor".

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva participated in the competition with a habilitation thesis - a monograph.

In the publications section, Dr. Nadya Kolcheva presents production for 355 points, with a requirement for occupying the academic position in professional direction 3.2. Psychology - 200. In the next category - Dr. Nadia Kolcheva presents 195 points, with a required 50. The rest of the national requirements and requirements of the NBU have also been fulfilled - 130 points from participation in projects, 105 points, with a required 50 for public activities, participation in the board/management council of national and/or international organizations and associations in the relevant professional direction, participation in program development and development of courses to programs, organization and conduct of a scientific schools, scientific seminars, scientific conferences, scientific congresses.

In the category related to joint work with students in research and creative projects, guidance/reviews of graduates who have successfully defended their theses or participation in commissions for state exams, provided internships and/or practical work for students, ensured participation of students in events outside the NBU, national and international competitions, national and international scientific forums, Dr. Nadya Kolcheva presents 120 points, out of the required 70. This category also includes the criterion Average score from the student satisfaction surveys of the courses - above 4.00, which is also fulfilled.

And in the last group of requirements related to the fulfillment of academic duties: regular participation in the meetings of the department/programme board, compliance with the admission time, regular conduct of classes, participation/management of projects for which external funds have been attracted, participation in the academic administration of the NBU for participation in the competition, Dr. Kolcheva presents 95 points, with requirements of 50.

The candidacy of Dr. Nadia Kolcheva is in full compliance with the priorities of the Department of Cognitive Science and Psychology and the future development of the professional field 3.2 Psychology.

II. Research (creative) activity and results

1. Evaluation of the monographic work or other publications corresponding in volume and completeness to a monographic work, including an evaluation of the scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the author.

The monographic work presented by Dr. Nadia Kolcheva is on "Significant others in a person's life". The book has a volume of 348 pages, and the bibliography contains a large number of references - 475.

The monograph is structured in an introduction and 7 chapters - Chapter 1 - The beginning of human life and relationships with others, Chapter 2 - Relationships with others. Concepts and Definitions Chapter 3 - Theoretical Models for Understanding Relationships with Others, Chapter 4 - Family: Parents as Significant Others, Chapter 5 - School: Teachers as Significant Others Chapter 6 - Building Emotional Connections: Intimate Partners as significant others and Chapter 7 - Work environment: direct supervisors as significant others.

The monograph "Significant Others in Human Life" covers the entirety of human existence with a focus on human relationships and relationships with significant others. It also includes own research in the field, with an emphasis on Interpersonal Acceptance-Rejection Theory (IPARTheory).

The first three chapters of the monograph present theoretical overviews related to human development with an emphasis on the biological predisposition of humans to social interactions, analysis of the environment and environmental factors and the social context, as well as their role in human development.

Theoretical models that address the concept of relationships with others are presented. Two theories are examined in detail - Attachment Theory and Interpersonal Acceptance-Rejection Theory, which explain the quality of emotional connections with others. A comparison is made between both theories and an analysis of the main paradigms included in them.

The next four chapters present relationships with different types of significant others—parents, teachers, intimate partners, supervisors in the workplace. An analysis of research data from international sources focused on these different types of relationships, studies that verify the postulates of IPARTheory in Bulgaria, is presented.

Part of the research work that is presented in the monograph is related to the translation and adaptation of the instruments with which the research was conducted in Bulgaria. 10 of the questionnaires and scales translated and adapted by the author into Bulgarian are presented: 1. Parental Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire, PARQ/C, Child, long form, version for the mother ; 2. Parental Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire, PARQ/C, Child, long form, father version; 3. Parental Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire, Adult (PARQ/C, Adult), long form, version for the mother; 4. Parental Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire, Adult (PARQ/C, Adult), long form, father version; 5. Personality Assessment Questionnaire, Child, PAQ, Child; 6. Personality Assessment Questionnaire, Adult, PAQ, Adult; 7. Interpersonal Rejection Sensitivity Scale (IRSS); 8. Teacher's Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire (TARQ/C), short form; 9. Teacher's Evaluation of Student's Conduct (TESC); 10. Intimate Partner Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire (IPAR/CQ)

Focus is also placed on a new and unexplored area within IPARTheory - a new reliable and valid tool (Organizational Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire, OARQ/C).

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva's monograph is the first research work that systematizes and tracks relationships with significant others over the course of a person's life through the prism of IPARTheory. This work is unique not only for Bulgaria, but also within the scientific literature of IPARTheory. The book presents for the first time the extension of IPARTheory in an organizational context, and the adapted tools are a valuable asset for researchers and psychologists.

The presented monograph can be described with the following contributions:

- An in-depth study of human relationships and their impact on personality was conducted;
- A thorough systematization and generalization of the topic of relationships with significant others in the course of a person's life through the prism of IPARTheory was performed.
- Relationships with significant others in different contexts in the course of individual development - in the family environment and parents as significant others (in childhood), school and teachers as significant others (during adolescence), intimate relationships and intimate partners, as well as the work environment and supervisors as significant others (during maturity) were presented.
- Analysis of the importance of the relationship with others for the overall development of the individual.
- Basic concepts in relation to interpersonal relations (social interactions, social relationships, social structure), their types, participants were presented.
- Summary and analysis of a huge volume of scientific research within the framework of IPARTheory was conducted in various countries around the world.
- For the first time, a systematic presentation of the theory of interpersonal acceptance-rejection (IPARTheory) in Bulgaria has been done.
- Extending the theoretical base of IPARTheory in an organizational context in international plan has been developed.
- Dozens of studies conducted in Bulgaria were presented, which verify one of the main postulates of the personality subtheory of IPARTheory in different stages of a person's life path and in different social contexts, incl. some of the first studies within IPARTheory to address and provide empirical evidence for age differences (particularly at school age). Expanding the empirical base of IPARTheory through dozens of studies conducted in the country.
- A comparison between the basic postulates and concepts of attachment theory and interpersonal acceptance-rejection theory has been done.
- Presentation of a large set of author's studies.
- Translation and adaptation for Bulgaria of 10 questionnaires and scales with presented data on psychometric characteristics. Opportunity for future cross-cultural research.

- A new instrument for assessing interpersonal acceptance-rejection in an organizational context (OARQ/C) was developed, piloted and validated.

The monographic work represents a broad coverage of the topic chosen by Dr. Nadia Kolcheva, including theoretical aspects, data from own research, generalizations, analyzes and conclusions. The work fully meets the requirements for a monographic work and can be used in the current competition.

2. Assessment of the contributions in the other publications developed after the academic position "chief assistant"

In the section Papers and reports published in scientific publications, refereed and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information, Dr. Nadia Kolcheva presents two papers refereed in WoS: Kolcheva, N., Sv.Stajkova, (2022). Good practices in the preparation of psychological assessment of development in children of early and preschool age, Journal of Pedagogy, Volume 94, Issue 2, 247-262, <https://doi.org/10.53656/ped2022-2.07> and Koltcheva, N. (2023). EU-SELF: An European Platform about Social and Emotional Skills in Early Childhood Education. Revista Românească pentru Educație Multidimensională, 15(2), 35-54. <https://doi.org/10.18662/rrem/15.2/719>

In the section Papers and reports published in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes, the candidate participates in the competition with 23 publications in journal of Special Pedagogy, Psychological Research journal, Bulgarian Journal of Psychology, Science journal and peer-reviewed conferences collections. All mentioned editions include scientific peer review. The articles, both independent and co-authored, deal with topics in the field of Psychology related to instruments for the assessment of psychological development, Developmental Psychopathology, Clinical Psychology and factors influencing the etiology of developmental disorders, adaptation of scales and questionnaires.

In the section Studies published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited volumes there are 3 publications in journals and proceedings of congresses and conferences also in the topic of Developmental Psychology and Clinical Psychology.

In the last section - a published chapter of a collective monograph, Dr. Nadia Kolcheva presents 5 publications in the field of early childhood development, publications as a result of participation in projects in the field of Psychology.

As a summary, the presented peer-reviewed journal papers, papers and studies in peer-reviewed collections, book chapters meet the requirements for participation in the competition for the academic position of associate professor in 3.2. Psychology.

3. Citation by other authors.

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva presents the following citations for her participation in the competition:

- Total number of citations in Google Scholar – 64 from 2019 until now
- 9 citations in monographs and collective volumes in scientific review
- 5 citations in foreign publications - Scopus, Web of Science
- 6 citations in peer-reviewed journals.

In summary, the candidate provides a sufficient number of citations for the competition, all of which are related to publications on the topic of the competition.

4. Evaluation of the results of participation in research and creative projects and application of the obtained results in practice.

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva participated in the competition with 2 national projects, one international project and management of 2 international projects.

The presented projects are in the field of Clinical Psychology and Educational Psychology and fully correspond to the participation of Dr. Nadia Kolcheva in the current competition.

In summary, Dr. Nadia Kolcheva's work fully meets the requirements for participation in national and international projects in the field of the current competition.

III. Learning and teaching activity

1. Classroom and out-door activities, work in the electronic training module "MOODLE - NBU", provision of internships, work with students and doctoral students.

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva fulfills and exceeds the NBU's requirements for classroom and out-door activities, as well as for publication of educational materials in Moodle.

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva has developed the following courses:

- For BP "Psychology", BP "Psychology" (in English) - PSYB008 Developmental Psychology, PSYB607 Psychology of Early and Preschool Childhood, PSYB311 Developmental Psychology at School Age, PSYB015 Development of Mental Processes, PSYB787 Developmental Psychopathology, PSYB797 Developmental Psychopathology Part II, PSYB727 Psychology of Abnormal Development, PSYB780 Developmental Psychopathology, DEVM102 Developmental Psychopathology, PSYE317 Developmental Psychopathology; PSYE413 Psychodiagnosics: Children, PSYE408 Psychodiagnosics: Adults, DEVM313 Developmental psychodiagnosics.

- For MP "Developmental Psychology" - DEVM108 Development of skills through play and learning; DEVM111 Social Development.

- Courses in pedagogical psychology and human development, developed for bachelor's and master's programs at the Department of "Foreign Languages" - in Bulgarian BCLB662 Educational Psychology, BCLB663 Educational Psychology, BCLB867 Psychology of Aging, MALM030 Developmental Psychology, MALM105 Educational Psychology, GENB076 Educational Psychology, GENB076D Educational Psychology, BCLB662D Educational Psychology, BCLB867D Age Psychology and English - ENGB608 Developmental Psychology, ENGB663 Educational Psychology.

- Courses in pedagogical psychology for the "New Bulgarian Studies" department - BULB784 Psychology for future teachers, part 1, BULB960 Psychology for future teachers, part 2.

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva participated in the development of the qualification program "Teacher", the qualification program "Teacher of..." and the qualification program "School Psychology (for teachers)" at the School of Professional and Continuing Education of the NBU,

as well as a number of courses to the programs (SCEQ205 Educational Psychology, SCEQ210 Communication Psychology, SCEQ212 School Test Assessment, SCEQ371 Teaching Methods in Psychology, SCEQ426 Children with Special Educational Needs, SCEQ211 Working with Children with SEN, SCEQ416 Developmental Psychology, SCEQ417 Psychological Research of the Child and the junior, SCEQ475 Test Assessment in School.

All courses led by Dr. Nadia Kolcheva include a course plan, assessment scheme and guidelines, literature, presentation boxes, text files, interactive materials, for the individual topics in the course.

Author materials have been uploaded by her to "Moodle NBU" for the following courses: PSYB008 Developmental Psychology, PSYB607 Psychology of Early and Preschool Childhood, PSYB311 Developmental Psychology at School Age, PSYB015 Development of Mental Processes, PSYB787 Developmental Psychopathology, PSYB797 Psychopathology of development Part II, PSYB727 Psychology of Abnormal Development, PSYB780 Developmental Psychopathology, DEVM102 Developmental Psychopathology, PSYE317 Developmental Psychopathology, PSYE413 Psychodiagnostics: Children, PSYE408 Psychodiagnostics: Adults, DEVM313 Developmental Psychodiagnostics, DEVM108 Development of skills through play and learning; DEVM111 Social Development, BCLB662 Educational Psychology, BCLB663 Educational Psychology, BCLB867 Age Psychology, MALM030 Developmental Psychology, MALM105 Educational Psychology, GENB076 Educational Psychology, GENB076D Educational Psychology, BCLB662D Educational Psychology, BCLB867D Psychology of Aging, ENGB608 Developmental Psychology, ENGB663 Educational Psychology, BULB784 Psychology for Future Teachers, Part 1, BULB960 Psychology for Future Teachers, Part 2, SCEQ205 Educational Psychology, SCEQ210 Psychology of Communication, SCEQ212 Assessment with Tests in School, SCEQ371 Teaching Methods in Psychology, SCEQ426 Children with Special Educational Needs, SCEQ211 Working with children with SEN, SCEQ416 Developmental Psychology, SCEQ417 Psychological Research of the Child and Adolescent, SCEQ475 Test Assessment in School, etc.

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva's research work includes students from BP Psychology, BP Psychology (in English), MP Developmental Psychology. She presents the following publications that present collaborative research with students: • Kolcheva, N., S. Borisova, (2014). Bulgarian adaptation of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire, version for adults (Adult

PARQ/C), Bulgarian Journal of Psychology, no. 1-3, , pp. 166-176, ISSN 0861-7813. • Kolcheva, N., D. Kurshumova, (2014). Parental acceptance-rejection in preschool children of Bulgarian and Roma origin, in S. Johnev, P. Dimitrov and N. Mateeva (eds.) Proceedings of the VII National Congress of Psychology (pp. 501-510). Sofia: Production Center LM EOOD. ISBN: 978-954-91472-9-2 • Kolcheva, N., P. Pandurova, (2014). Generational continuity of parental acceptance and rejection, in S. Johnev, P. Dimitrov, and N. Mateeva (eds.) Proceedings of the VII National Congress of Psychology (pp. 520-533). Sofia: Production Center LM EOOD. ISBN: 978-954-91472-9-2 • Kurshumova, D., Acceptance-rejection in parents and children of preschool age, in S. Johnev, P. Dimitrov and N. Mateeva (eds.) Collection of Scientific Reports from the VII National Congress of Psychology (pp. 511-519). Sofia: Production Center LM EOOD. ISBN: 978-954-91472-9-2 etc.

Projects with the participation of students are also presented: • STEAM project - Participation in a project and in international trainings on the project • EU-Self project - Participation in a project and in international trainings on the project

2. Work with Erasmus students.

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva teaches courses in English at BP Psychology in English with the participation of Erasmus students and students from countries in and outside the EU - PSYE317 Developmental Psychopathology, PSYE413 Psychodiagnostics: Children, PSYE408 Psychodiagnostics: Adults.

3. Evaluations from student surveys.

Dr. Nadya Kolcheva participates in the competition with a generalized average grade from classroom courses and out-door activities of good 4.32, with a maximum grade of 5.

In summary, Dr. Nadia Kolcheva fully satisfies the requirements of the NBU for the implementation of classroom courses and out-door activities, work in the electronic training module "MOODLE - NBU", provision of student practices and internships, work with foreign, incl. Erasmus students and average student satisfaction survey score above 4.

IV. Administrative and public work

1. Participation in collective management bodies of the NBU

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva is the Program Director - BP "Psychology" for the following academic years: 2009/2010, 2010/2011, 2011/2012, 2012/2013.

She is the head and coordinator of the Test Library at the Department of Cognitive Science and Psychology

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva participates in the councils of the Department of Cognitive Science and Psychology at NBU.

2. Public activity

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva participated in the organization of the National Conference "Early Childhood Development: Science and Practice", September 28-29, 2016, NBU. She is an ideologue and organizer of the monthly seminar "Profession psychologist" since 2015. The seminar is dedicated to the professional development of psychologists.

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva presents for the competition an impressive list of public lectures conducted on behalf of the NBU at the invitation of universities or prestigious national/international organizations.

She is a member of the Society of Psychologists in the Republic of Bulgaria (SPS).

Certified psychologist at EFPA and member and expert at the National Alliance for Early Childhood Development, Bulgaria

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva is the vice president of Eurodoc (The European Council for Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers, an international federation of national associations of doctoral candidates and early career researchers (pre-doctoral or post-doctoral researchers employed on a temporary basis) of the European Union and the Council of Europe.), 2009-2010.

4. Attracting students to the program.

Dr. Nadia Kolcheva participated in the development of BP Psychology, BP Psychology in English, bachelor's and master's programs at the Department of Foreign Languages. She developed courses in pedagogical psychology for the "New Bulgarian Studies" department, the "Teacher" qualification program, the "Teacher of..." qualification program and the "School Psychology (for teachers)" qualification program at the School of Professional and Continuing Education of the NBU.

V. Personal impressions of the candidate

My personal impressions of Dr. Nadia Kolcheva are that she is a very highly qualified psychologist, responsible for her practical work, teaching, and the administrative requirements of the positions she holds.

Dr. Kolcheva prepares her courses extremely precisely and takes a very responsible approach to her duties as a teacher.

She is sensitive to ethical aspects and moral concepts in her role as a psychologist and researcher, a reliable partner in joint projects.

VI. Opinions and recommendations

As a recommendation to the candidate, I would note that more emphasis should be placed on products of scientific research work - projects, publications in the field of Psychology.

Conclusion

My assessment of Dr. Nadia Kolcheva's academic activity is entirely positive. I categorically recommend that the Academic Council of the NBU choose ch. assistant professor Nadia Kolcheva, Ph.D. for Associate Professor in professional field 3.4. Psychology

25.08.2024

Signature: assoc. prof. Margarita Stankova, MD, PhD