

## STATEMENT

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About the Announced Competition for Occupation of the Academic Position Associate Professor in Forensic Psychiatry, professional field 7.1. Medicine declared in the State Gazette no. 62 of 08/08/2019

By Prof. Vanya Matanova D.Sc.

Dr. Svetlin Varbanov is the only candidate in the announced competition.

Dr. Varbanov graduated Medicine in 2005 at the Medical University of Varna. He has acquired a specialization in Forensic Psychiatry in 2016. He became Doctor of Medicine in 2018. From 2018 he is a Senior Assistant in Forensic Psychiatry at the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology - Medical University Varna.

In this competition, Dr. Varbanov participates with 32 scientific publications, of which 1 monograph, 7 book chapters, 23 publications in collections and periodicals, 16 of which are in Bulgarian and 7 in English.

The 2019 Forensic Psychiatric Expertise in Family Law Habilitation Work is a study on current problems of parenting - forensic psychiatric evaluation of conflicts and disputes between parents and risk assessment of children in the context of forensic psychiatry. The issue of the exercise of parental rights, of the phenomenon of "child murder" and of the validity of PAS is thoroughly discussed. The monograph is interdisciplinary in nature, with a practical value for a wide range of professionals. This is the first publication in our country containing an analysis of the forensic-psychiatric aspects of parenting and family law.

The topics in Dr. Varbanov's presented scientific papers are very diverse, but can be classified into several thematic areas: suicide, forensic psychiatry, depression, anxiety, stress, alcohol and psychoactive substances in adolescence, schizophrenia, etc.

Suicide is the topic of Dr. Varbanov's dissertation work and 10 other publications- (7.1., 7.2., 7.3., 8.1., 8.2., 8.3., 8.6., 8.11., 8.12., 8.15). The tool for assessing suicide attitudes developed in both Bulgarian and English is of great practical value. Cross-cultural differences in attitudes to suicide and its relation to depressive and anxiety tendencies and some demographic characteristics have been investigated and established.

The forensic psychiatric aspects of suicidal behavior are addressed in three of the publications (8.10., 8.13, 8.14). Examples of good and bad practices have been presented and suggestions have been made to optimize expertise.

The problems of anxiety-depressive states and stress are discussed in three publications (8.5., 8.7., 8.8.). Stress / distress levels and their relation to anxiety and depressive symptoms have been studied. The results of a screening study of depression and anxiety disorders in general practice are analyzed, as well as the relationship between depression and endocrine pathology.

The use of alcohol and drugs in adolescents is an extremely topical issue, covered in one publication-8.4. Personality and family factors for use / abuse were analyzed. From a practical point of view, the analyzes related to the assessment of risk and protective factors are important.

The publications presented by Dr. Varbanov have a total of 21 citations, four of which are in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in well-known scientific information databases, and 17 in non-refereed scientific peer-reviewed journals.

As a lecturer in Psychiatry and Medical Psychology at the Medical University of Varna, Dr. Varbanov trains Bulgarian and foreign students in medicine, dental medicine, pharmacy, and health care.

He has produced over 40 independent and complex forensic psychiatric examinations in criminal and civil cases.

The presented scientific production of Dr. Varbanov covers the minimum scientometric requirements for occupation of the academic position "Associate Professor", Professional area 7.1. Medicine, with indicators in groups "G" and "D" exceed the requirements. His teaching activity as a quantity and quality corresponds to the announced competition.

All of this gives me grounds to propose to the Honorable Scientific Jury to award Dr. Svetlin Varbanov the Academic position of Associate Professor in Forensic Psychiatry.

12 Dec 2019

Prof. Vania Matanova, D.Sc.