

## PEER REVIEW

by Prof. Dr. Milena Shushulova-Pavlova, New Bulgarian University,  
for the contributions of the proposed habilitation work, scientific and practical activity  
of

**Associate Professor Dr. Vasil Atanasov Kolev,**

for participation in a competition for occupation of the academic position “Professor”,  
Specialty “Project Management”

under Professional field 8.1 “Theory of Arts”

at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv  
(announced in State Gazette, Issue 88 dated 20.10.2023)

### Biographical data

**Vasil Atanasov Kolev** graduated from Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, majoring in “Art Management” (Master’s degree) in 2010. In the period from 2014 until 2018, he was a full-time doctoral student at the Academy and in 2018 he obtained the degree of “Doctor” (topic of the dissertation: “*Methodology in Project Management and its Features in Art Organizations*”). Since 2014, he has been appointed as an Assistant at the Academy, and since 2019, he has been an “Associate Professor” majoring in “Project Management” at the Academy, under Professional field 8.1 “Theory of Arts”. In 2020, Dr. Kolev applied with the “Strength CPSBB” Project to the “ERA Fellowships Science management” Program, funded by the German Ministry of Science and Education, through which he received a grant ensuring his participation in a specialization at the University of Potsdam, Germany, in the field of Scientific Management. He is the author of two monographs: “*Georgi Hristov. To Be a Teacher by Vocation*” and “Plovdiv – Art Organizations and their Management Profile”, co-authored with Vesela Kazashka and Margarita Ruseva. Dr. Kolev works and publishes actively in Bulgarian and foreign publications, five of which (one independent and four co-authored) are included in scientific publications referenced and indexed in world-famous databases. He also actively participates in the International Project “Night of the Scientists”, financed by the European Union under the *Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Programme* (2018-2023), in national projects from the Scientific Research Fund: the Project “Art Management: Plovdiv – New Trends and Classical Artistry” (ART); the International Conferences “Science, Education, and Innovation in the Field of Arts” in 2017 and 2019; the International Conference “Evolution vs. Revolution or on Development Models” in 2022; as well as in the Jubilee International Scientific Conference “50 Years of Traditions and Development of Bulgarian Folklore” in 2022. In 2023, he participated in the following project: “Modernization of the Curriculum Process at Prof. Pancho Vladigerov National Academy of Music and Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts” under the Operational Programme “Science and Education for Intelligent Growth”. Since 2015, he has been organizing and leading the annual Project “Spring Scientific Readings” National Scientific Conference at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, where in recent years he has also been the moderator of the second section. He also participates in projects outside the arts sector. He is fluent in English and Russian. Vasil Kolev is also a member of the European network of researchers – EURAXESS and the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria.

## **Assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria**

### Group of indicators A

Dissertation work for awarding the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” on the topic “**Methodology in Project Management and its Features in Art Organizations**”, doctoral program “Musicology and Musical Art”, Professional field 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts”, 15.06.2018

**Realized points: 50**

### Group of indicators C

Indicator 3. *Habilitation thesis – published monograph in the relevant scientific field*

Kolev, V. “*Georgi Hristov. To Be a Teacher by Vocation*”, Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, 2021, ISBN 978-954-2963-96-7, a total of 203 pages.

**Realized points: 100**

### Group of indicators D

Indicator 8. *Articles and reports published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information*

1. Web of Science, Conference report, Kolev. V, **Plovdiv – The Cultural Capital of Bulgaria**, 2019, CBU INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS 2019, Prague, E-ISSN 1805-9961 (online), Vol. 7, ISBN978-80-907722-1-2 (online), pp. 472-477 (30 points);
2. Open Research Europe, **Vasil Kolev**, Tsanko Gechev, Petar Kazakov, Asia Ivanova, Tsvetomira Ivanova, Marina Mircheva, Daniela Ganeva, Veneta Tabakova-Komsalova, Margarita Ruseva, Elitsa Kantardzhieva, Vesela S. Kazashka, **Establishment and Development of the Center of Plant Systems, Biology and Biotechnology in Plovdiv, Bulgaria**, 2023, Open Research Europe 2023, ISSN 2732-5121 (online) (30 points).

**Realized points: 60**

Indicator 9. *Articles and reports published in specialized publications in the field of arts*

1. “*New Techniques for Developing Business Skills in Artists for Managing Projects and Art Organizations*”, 2019, Second International Scientific Conference “Science, Education and Innovation in the Arts”, ISBN: 978-954-2963-56-1., pp. 298-303.
2. “*The Testament of the Past Draws the Future, for a Local History Project*”, 2020, VII International Scientific Conference “Evolution vs. Revolution or on Development Models”, ISBN: 978-954-2963-69-1, pp. 270-280.
3. “*Spring Scientific Readings at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv*”, 2021, Third International Scientific Conference “Science, Education and Innovations in the Field of Arts”, 2021, ISSN 2738-8956 (Print), ISSN 2738-8964 (online), pp. 385-392.

4. *“Projects under National Programs for the Development of Education – a Tool for Strengthening the Teaching Profession”*. In: Collection “Spring Scientific Readings 2022”, Plovdiv 2022, ISSN 1314-7005, pp. 262-271.
5. *“The Role of Intra-Academic Projects for the Preservation and Promotion of Folklore Heritage”*. In: Proceedings of Jubilee Scientific Conference “50 Years of Traditions and Development of Bulgarian Folklore”, Plovdiv 2022, ISBN:978-619-7682-17-5 (soft cover), ISBN 978-619-7682-18-2 (e- book PDF), pp. 154-166.
6. *“Development of the Project Financing at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv in the period 2008-2022”*. In: Proceedings of the Tenth International Scientific and Practical Conference “Management and Marketing Problems in Art”, Plovdiv 2022, ISSN 2815-519X, pp. 49-56.
7. *“Vocation – Teacher”*. Yearbook 2022 of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, Plovdiv 2022, ISSN 1313-6526 (Print), ISSN 2738-7712 (Online), pp. 57-66.
8. *“Challenges in the Field of Due Diligence in the Implementation of Projects in Small Public Sector Organizations”*. In: Collection “Spring Scientific Readings 2023”, Plovdiv 2023, ISSN 1314-7005, pp. 233-242.
9. *“Forum for Expression and Support of Scientific and Creative Potential”*. In: Proceedings of the Fourth International Scientific Conference “Science, Education and Innovation in the Arts”, ISSN (Print), ISSN (Online), **in print**, Official Notes No 513 and No 514/06.12.2023.
10. *“Information Security Protection Policies – Part of Management Responsibility”*. In: Proceedings of the Eleventh International Scientific and Practical Conference “Management and Marketing Problems in Art”, ISSN (Print), ISSN (Online), **in print**, Official Notes No 515 and No 516/06.12.2023.
11. *“Harmonization of the Generations. Scientists, Artists and Citizens Together at the Night of the Scientists 2019 in Plovdiv”*. In: Nauka Magazine, Issue 6/2019, ISSN 0861 3362 (print), ISSN 2603-3623 (electronic), pp. 31-33

**Realized points: 165**

Indicator 11. *Studies published in specialized publications in the field of arts*

1. *“The Yellow School Project. The Quest to Preserve an Infrastructure Project – Part of Bulgarian History”*. 2023, Print: ISBN 978-619-7682-29-8, Online: ISBN 978-619-7682-30-4, 75 pages, 113 pp. with appendix.

**Realized points: 30**

#### Group of indicators E

Indicator 16. *Citations or reviews in scientific publications referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes*

**Presented 3 citations of 15 points each**

**Realized points: 45**

Indicator 17. *Citations in peer-reviewed monographs and collective volumes*

**Presented 8 citations of 10 points each**

**Realized points: 80**

## Group of indicators F

### Indicator 22. *Participation in a national scientific, educational, or artistic project*

1. Second International Conference on the topic: *“Science, Education and Innovations in the Field of Arts”*, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, scientific, field “Arts”, funded by the Scientific Research Fund, Contract No КП-06-МНФ/23/16.07.2019, member of the management team;
2. VII International Scientific Conference *“Evolution vs. Revolution or on Development Models”*, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, Scientific, Arts District, funded by the Scientific Research Fund, Contract No КП-06-МНФ/5/15.09.2020, member of the management team;
3. Jubilee Scientific Conference *“50 Years of Traditions and Development of Bulgarian Folklore”*, scientific, field “Arts”, funded by the Scientific Research Fund, Contract No КП-06-МНФ-21/21.09.2022, member of the management team.

**Realized points: 45**

### Indicator 23. *Participation in an international scientific, educational, or artistic project*

1. Project H2020-MSCA-NIGHT-2020-101036078, K-TRIO 5, funded by the European Union under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Programme, Contract dated 07.05.2021 with the Central Committee of the Russian Federation, Coordinator, Order No РД-16-404 of 06.07.2021 by the Rector of the Academy;
2. Project 101061564-K-TRIO-HORIZON-MSCA-2022-CITIZENS-01, funded by the European Union under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Programme 2022, member of the management team;
3. Strength CPSBB Project to the ERA Fellowships Science Management Program, funded by the German Ministry of Science and Education, Contract dated 19.06.2019, grant for specialization in Germany, Potsdam, University of Potsdam on the topic of “Scientific Management” for the period from 15.01.2020 until 15.03.2020.

**Realized points: 60**

### Indicator 24. *Management of a national scientific, educational, or artistic project*

1. Project: National Scientific Conference *“Spring Scientific Readings 2019”*, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, scientific, field “Arts”, Contract No 24/19 of 21.03.2019, implementation period: 21.03.2019 – 30.11.2019;
2. Project: National Scientific Conference *“Spring Scientific Readings 2020”*, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, scientific, field “Arts”, Contract No 17/20 of 06.04.2020, implementation period: 06.04.2020 – 15.12.2020;
3. Project: National Scientific Conference *“Spring Scientific Readings 2021”*, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, scientific, field “Arts”, Contract No 13/21 of 17.03.2021, implementation period: 17.03.2021 – 15.12.2021;
4. Project: National Scientific Conference *“Spring Scientific Readings 2022”*, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, scientific, field “Arts”, Contract No 3/22 of 15.03.2022, implementation period: 15.03.2022 – 15.12.2022;

5. Project: National Scientific Conference “*Spring Scientific Readings 2023*”, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, scientific, field “Arts”, Contract No 6/2023 of 23.03.2023, implementation period: 23.03.2023 – 15.12.2023.

**Realized points: 150**

Indicator 27. *Published university textbook or a textbook that is used in the educational network*

1. Collection “*Palette of Pirin and Ograzhden National Costumes*”, Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, 2020, ISBN 978-954-2963-67-7 (hard copy) and ISBN 978-954-2963-68-4 (electronic PDF).

**Realized points: 20**

Under Higher education field **8 “Arts”**

Group of indicators	Content	Required for the position of “Professor”	Completed by the candidate for the position of “Professor”
A	Indicator 1	50	<b>50</b>
C	Sum of the indicators from 3 to 5	100	<b>100</b>
D	Sum of the indicators from 6 to 15	150	<b>255</b>
E	Sum of the indicators from 16 to 19	80	<b>125</b>
F	Sum of the indicators from 20 forward	120	<b>275</b>

**The presented activity is serious and fully sufficient to defend the occupation of the academic position of “Professor” under Professional field 8.1 “Theory of Arts”, specialty “Project Management” at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv. From the data provided, it can be seen that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Kolev meets the necessary scientometric requirements and has an active, serious, and memorable scientific and project activity.**

### **Research activity and results**

The monograph of Vasil Kolev “*Georgi Hristov. To Be a Teacher by Vocation*” is composed of an introduction, five chapters, a conclusion, a literature of 40 titles, an inventory of Georgi Hristov’s personal archive, and two reviews by specialists in the fields of Philology and Arts. The research is based on documents and interviews and presents fully and comprehensively the life and activities of the distinguished teacher Georgi Hristov, which gradually led to the culmination of his overall pedagogical activity: the realization of a three-year local history project “*Expedition of Folklore and Ethnography*”. Part of the

monograph are the twenty-eight interviews conducted: with students of Georgi Hristov – fourteen from different graduations covering the period from 1960 to 1987 and ten – with his students, who graduated in 1983, and who participated in the local history project. Three of the interviews are with teachers and prominent public figures, and one is with his wife. On the basis of the documents and interviews, the personality of the Bulgarian Language and Literature teacher Georgi Hristov is presented, and formal parallels are made with the local history project implemented by Hristov and today's possibilities of project management.

### **Contribution moments in the research, practical, and project activity of the candidate**

1. Presented new data related to the creation, construction, and preservation of the “Yellow School” as a successfully implemented investment project, part of Bulgarian history;
2. Presented an analysis of the possibilities and specifics when developing projects from the cultural industries in the City of Plovdiv, focused on the cultural diversity of the city and its impact on the cultural life of Bulgaria, which led to the selection of the City of Plovdiv as the European Capital of Culture in 2019;
3. Offered an innovative training method used in the “LiveSkills” Project, funded by the European Commission under the “Erasmus + SSA” Program, with participants from four countries, which can be applied to a wider range of learners;
4. Conducted research among 107 respondents, aiming to compare the attitude of students towards the teaching profession in the seventies and eighties of the twentieth century, with the contemporary attitude of secondary school graduates in the last four years. The research provided up-to-date, useful, and actionable information on the influence of teachers and is a basis for future comparative analyzes in a national and regional context;
5. Analyzed and presented the results of a survey among the participants in the Annual National Conference “Spring Scientific Readings”, tracking the development of the project implementation. The analyzes provided useful information about the significance, value, and added value of the scientific conference as a tribune that provokes the creative and scientific potential of educators, students, and doctoral students, as well as as a forum for sharing and developing new ideas and interactions between different types of arts;
6. Presented specific tools for implementing effective internal control based on the analysis of problems and opportunities in the implementation of projects, with an emphasis on their management. Developed sample (as a draft) *Internal rules for preliminary control of legal policies* and *Rules for working with information systems and ensuring information security, applicable in the real sector*.

### **Administrative and public activity. Educational and teaching activity**

Vasil Kolev develops curricula in the disciplines “Project Management”, “Projects and Financing in Art”, “Development and Implementation of Projects”, “Project Financing of Musical and Stage Productions Module”, and “Cultural Tourism”. He also advises students, doctoral students, and teachers in the preparation of project proposals to municipalities,

the Ministry of Culture, the Scientific Research Fund, and internal academic projects. He is the author of “Project Management” Training Module in two programs: “Art Management” and “Cultural Entrepreneurship” under the “Live Skills” Project 575425-EPP-1-2016-1-UK-EPPKA2-SSA ([www.live-skills.eu](http://www.live-skills.eu)), with coordinator – the British Council, and partner – the National High School of Performing and Screen Arts in Plovdiv. Assoc. Prof. Kolev participates in national and international projects and attracts funds to the Academy’s budget, which complement the opportunities of students, doctoral students, and teachers for larger-scale scientific and creative activity.

**Personal impressions of the candidate (if any)**

I know Vasil Kolev from scientific conferences. He is well mannered, cordial, and always ready to help. I am impressed by his practical and scientific activity and his great activity in relation to projects, and I think that the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts must be very proud to have such a person in the ranks of its teaching team.

The peer review may end with the following assessment:

Based on everything stated above, as well as the conclusions drawn on the proposed scientific, project, and teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Kolev, bearing in mind his serious activity and the contributing nature of the proposed materials, I **give my convinced positive assessment** and offer to the respected members of the Scientific jury under the competition for occupation of the academic position of “Professor”, under Professional field 8.1 “Theory of Arts”, specialty “Project Management” at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, to propose to the respected Academic Council of the Academy **to elect Associate Professor Dr. Vasil Kolev for the academic position of “Professor”**, according to the requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Date: 29.01.2024

Signature:  
Prof. Dr. Milena Shushulova-Pavlova