

REVIEW

by Prof. Milen Zamfirov

for a dissertation on the topic: "The integration of information and communication technologies (ICT) in education and the role of school management in primary and secondary special educational institutions".

for obtaining the educational and scientific degree "doctor" in Professional direction 1.2. Pedagogy (Special Pedagogy)

Author: Georgios Tegos

Scientific supervisor: Prof. Dr. Neda Balkanska

1. Compliance of the procedure with the current regulations.

By order No. RD 38-276 of 03.06.2024 of the Rector of SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" I am included in the scientific jury of Georgios Ioannis Tegos for the procedure for the defense of a dissertation work to obtain the educational and scientific degree "Doctor".

Georgios Tegos is a full-time doctoral student in professional field 1.2. Pedagogy (Special Pedagogy).

The set of electronic materials submitted by the doctoral student includes all documents according to the regulatory requirements, according to the Higher Education Institution and the Regulations on the Terms and Conditions for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Holding Academic Positions at SU.

2. General biographical presentation of the candidate (education, qualifications, professional experience, etc.)

Georgios Tegos has two bachelor degrees in:

- IT Applications in Management and Economics (2008)

and

- Business Management, Business IT (2012) at the University of Western Macedonia, Greece.

There are also two master's degrees:

- Special Education (2015)

and

- Educational Leadership & Management (2018) at the University of Nicosia

Georgios Tegos also has a number of certificates from training in ICT (levels B1 and B2), foreign language-English (C2), Braille and seminars on: Special Treatment and Education and Integrated education (Integrated education, distinctness, acceptance, school incorporation), Counseling and Guidance.

3. Actuality of the issues of the dissertation work.

Students are the citizens of tomorrow, and it is filled with technology of all kinds. To be prepared for life after school, they must be able to use them. The way to achieve this is through the application of information and communication technologies in education.

In the modern information society, the need for the use of ICT is obvious, in view of the need to manage the huge amount of information in the various spheres of human activity. The successful implementation of ICT

in educational institutions can bring many benefits to all learners or workers in them.

The use of computers and the Internet to improve the quality and relevance of the learning process is ideal for many educational institutions.

It's no secret that children feel more motivated and engaged in the learning process when practical concepts and skills are added to it. With the help of modern educational technologies, they absorb and remember the learning material better, develop practical and presentation skills.

Through the use of ICT, problems of a different nature can be overcome, such as the problem of time and space limitations of traditional classrooms.

In addition, through the use of ICT, students and teachers are provided with access to a large amount of modern and diverse information, which can facilitate the learning of the students and the teachers in the preparation of the learning material.

4. Structure and content of the dissertation work.

The dissertation is built on four chapters, introduction, conclusion, references, appendix and contributions.

In the first chapter, School leadership and management in special education, the administrative aspects of education in the Republic of Greece, the management of human resources in education, the administrative bodies in the school unit, what is the structure and role of the school leadership, school management, what are the functions and effectiveness of the head of the school unit, the role of teachers and school management in school integration, what are the advantages and barriers

to special and inclusive education, what is the current state of special and inclusive education in Greece.

The second chapter - Relationship of teachers, students and school management with the integration of information and communication technologies in special education - also makes a theoretical analysis of ICT in special education, what are the advantages of the application of ICT in special education, what is the role of ICT and in teacher training, what are the current barriers and attitudes towards the integration of ICT in special education, the role of school leadership in special education.

Chapter Three - Research Design - correctly describes the aim and objectives, the six research questions and two hypotheses.

The research contingent consists of 254 people: teachers, principals, vice-principals of primary and secondary Greek special schools, students.

The methodology is based on a survey, a training experiment and a control experiment.

In chapter four - Analysis of the results - a detailed statistical analysis is made, the doctoral student has also made an analysis and discussion related to the demographic data of the participants, the barriers to the application of ICT, the perceptions and attitudes to the application of ICT, the role of the school management, the integration of ICT in terms of gender and school level, a comparative analysis of the competence of the participants for the application of ICT is also made, in depending on their prior training, a comparative analysis of the participants' competence according to the type of their ICT certification and an analysis of the students' results: ICT versus traditional forms of learning.

5. Scientific-theoretical and practical-applied contributions.

The contributions could have been more concrete and specified, they sound somewhat general, and the work done is indeed very large and quite a few contributions can be made - theoretical and mostly practical.

6. Abstract.

The abstract meets the requirements and covers the content of the dissertation.

7. Publications on the topic of the dissertation (content and fulfillment of scientometric requirements).

D. Tegos has four publications (reports) that have been printed in full in two proceedings of FNOI conferences.

The articles are relevant to the content of the dissertation.

8. Personal impressions.

I have no personal impressions of G. Tegos.

9. Notes, recommendations and questions.

I have no recommendations or remarks.

My question is - to what extent can mobile phones be considered as ICT and what educational role could they have in school, replacing computers?

10. Conclusion.

Bearing in mind the above, I confidently give my positive assessment of the conducted research, presented in the dissertation work, the abstract, the achieved results and contributions.

I declare my positive vote for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" to Georgios Tegos from professional field 1.2. Pedagogy - Special pedagogy, field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences.