MATHEMATICS EDUCATION IS IN DEEP CRISIS

Kiril Bankov Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics <u>kbankov@fmi.uni-sofia.bg</u>

Abstract: For the last two centuries the quality of mathematics education in Bulgarian schools has been decreasing. There are many evidences for this process: the decreasing results of the Bulgarian students in international mathematical studies like TIMSS and PISA; the performance of the students on national mathematical assessments and examinations; observations of mathematicians who teach mathematics either on school or university levels. There are many reasons for poor quality of mathematics education, many of which are complex, but some are mathematically specific. Some of latter are analyzed in this paper. The paper also presents suggestions for improvement of mathematics education in Bulgarian schools.

Key words: mathematics education, mathematics curriculum, Matura in mathematics, mathematical competence.