

STATEMENT OF OPINION

**by Tsvetanka Dimchova Avramova, PhD,
Assoc. Prof. at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”
on the materials submitted for participation in the competition
for taking the academic position of *Associate Professor*
in Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”
in higher education area 2. Human Studies,
professional field 2.1. Philology (Slavic Languages – Contemporary Czech Language)**

In the competition for holding the academic position of Associate Professor, announced in State Gazette, issue 57 of 26th June 2020 and on the website of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" for the needs of the Department of Slavic Studies at the Faculty of Philology, the only candidate who has participated is Ch. Ass. Prof. Ginka Alexandrova Bakardzhieva, PhD, from the same department. By order No. P33-4138 of 25th August 2020 of the Rector of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski", I was appointed a member of the scientific jury of the competition.

1. General presentation of the procedure and candidate

The presented by Ch. Ass. Prof. Ginka Bakardzhieva, PhD, set of materials on paper is in accordance with the Regulations for Development of the Academic Staff of Plovdiv University.

A total of 20 scientific papers have been submitted for participation in the competition, of which 2 monographs and 18 articles and reports in scientific journals, as follows: 11 – in Bulgarian and 7 in foreign ones. The report on compliance with the national minimum requirements shows that the candidate has fulfilled the requirements for taking the position of an associate professor.

Ginka Bakardzhieva graduated Slavic Philology at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski ” in 1989 with the qualification “Specialist in Czech Language and Literature” and “Teacher of Bulgarian Language and Literature”. During her years of study, she specialized several times at Charles University in Prague (Summer School of Slavonic Studies – 1987; a semester in 1988), as well as at Masaryk University, Brno (Summer School of Slavonic Studies – 1986). In 2001, she received the scientific and educational degree "Doctor" in Slavic Languages with a dissertation on "Variability of Dialogic Discourse". Since 1993, she has been a Chief Assistant at the Department of Slavic Studies at the Faculty of Philology at Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv, where she teaches Czech (practical language and theoretical disciplines), Theory of Translation (for Slavists), Cultural Realities (for Bohemists), Introduction in Onomastics (for Bulgarists and Slavists), Bulgarian Language – Morphology, Word Formation, Lexicology (theoretical courses) and a practical course in Bulgarian Language.

The candidate used to be a part-time translator of Czech and Slovak films at BNT, a part-time teacher in Bulgarian for foreign students at the Medical University in Plovdiv, the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv, the Technical University – Sofia with a branch of Plovdiv; Lecturer in Bulgarian at Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan (2001–2002), Charles University, Prague (2010–2014; 2019 – present). She speaks Czech, Slovak, Russian, Polish and English.

Ginka Bakardzhieva is a prominent translator of fiction from Czech into Bulgarian. For the translation of fiction she has received the award of Plovdiv twice – in 2009, for the translation of *Veronica and Grandpa Coconut* by Pavel Šrut, and in 2019, for the translation of *Witch hammer* by Václav Kaplický. In 2016, she was awarded a silver plaque by the Faculty of Philosophy at Charles University in Prague for significant creative and pedagogical contribution to the development of Czech-Bulgarian relations in the field of culture and literary translation.

2. General characteristics of the candidate's activity and contributions

Ch. Ass. Prof. Ginka Bakardzhieva, PhD, has a full academic workload at Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv; she teaches Czech language (practical courses) at different levels, various lecture courses in contemporary Czech language, contemporary Bulgarian language and general Slavonic courses (Slavic Onomastics, Theory of Translation). She has participated several times in teaching mobility under the Erasmus programme, CEEPUS, as well as in the academic exchange under the Agreement between the Ministry of Education, Youth and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic. She has been a supervisor of 13 diploma theses. The candidate has participated in 3 research projects – two international and one at the Fund “Scientific Research” at the University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski" (as a project manager).

Ginka Bakardzhieva has submitted 20 scientific papers for participation in the competition, of which, as mentioned, 2 are monographs (one based on a defended doctoral dissertation) and 18 are articles and reports in scientific journals in Bulgaria and abroad (the Czech Republic and Poland) . Outside the competition, there are other 42 published articles in the field of literary studies, textual linguistics, pragmatics, intercultural communication and others. She is also a co-author of the first Bulgarian multimedia textbook and the guide to it in Bulgarian language for foreigners. All this shows the diverse interests and abilities of the candidate for research work in various fields of philology.

The monograph *Variability of Dialogic Discourse* (Plovdiv: Letera 2019, 176 pages), although mainly revised and updated, was published on the basis of a defended dissertation and, therefore, will not be commented in this statement of opinion. I will focus in particular on the habilitation monograph *Peculiarities of the Proprial Nomination* (Plovdiv: Letera, 2020, 260 pages).

The aim of the monograph is to outline the peculiarities of the proprial nomination, understood as a process and as a result of the linguistic activity according to the concept of functional onomasiology, relying mainly on the works of V. Matezius, M. Dokulil, F. Danesh, F. Chermak. The dynamics between the appellate and the proprial sphere as a result of the ongoing processes of *proprialization*, *transonymization* and *appellation* in three types

of onymic objects, distinguished by the features of person, place, subject: anthroponyms, toponyms and chrematonyms in Bulgarian and Czech, has been traced.

The monograph consists of two chapters of equal volume. The first chapter presents the main theoretical statements related to the research issues. Attention has been paid to the different interpretations of the term *nomination*, an overview and systematization of the sources and methods of nomination has been made, the specifics of the proprial nomination from the point of view of functional onomastics have been studied, the classifications of proper names by different features have been commented, the criteria for distinguishing appellations and proprias have been considered, the question of proprial semantics from the point of view of logical-philosophical and linguistic concepts has been discussed, adopting the complex approach – the semantic functional description of proper names, proposed by V. Blonar. The author also dwells on various grammatical characteristics of proper names in view of the categories of gender, number, definiteness.

The second chapter discusses the results of the processes of proprialization, transonymization and appellation in the analyzed types of onymic objects, but the individual processes have not been presented equally in both languages. The appellation, the phraseologisms containing the proprial component, the translational approaches and ways of transmission of the proprial units from and into Bulgarian and Czech have been studied comparatively. The other aspects of the proprial nomination have been analysed only on material from the Bulgarian language, which creates the impression of a certain asymmetry. On the other hand, at the end of the second chapter, the possibilities for application of the onomastic theory for the use of proper names in the teaching of Bulgarian language (as native or foreign) have been traced. This gives the research not only scientific but also scientific and scientific applied value.

I completely agree with the implications formulated in the conclusion of the monograph, which could be considered as the main contributions of the work (pp. 224–228).

3. Critical remarks and recommendations

I have a terminological remark – since we are talking about nomination, the relevant processes and techniques should be referred to as *nominative*, not *nominativ*, as is accepted in other Bulgarian studies, probably under the influence of the Russian language. It would be desirable in some places to clarify some statements relating to word formation in proper names, e.g. to specify that female surnames (see p. 68) do not arise by suffixation, but by means of a paradigmatic formant – inflection (if we rely on the Polish derivatological terminology), or the so-called conversion in a broad sense (if we use the prevailing opinion in the Czech derivatology).

These small remarks in no way belittle the analysis made and its conclusions regarding the interrelationships between form, semantics, grammatical categories and functions of the proprial units.

Some aspects of the proprial problematics were discussed in some of the presented articles. To participate in the competition, 7 publications have been enclosed, not related to the topic of the dissertation and the habilitation work, in the field of linguodidactics and translatology.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials submitted by Ginka Alexandrova Bakardzhieva **meet all the requirements** of the Law for the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), the Regulations for implementation of ZRASRB and the respective Regulations of Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”.

The quantity and quality of the scientific papers submitted for review, the original scientific and scientific applied contributions they contain, give me reason to convincingly give my **positive assessment and to recommend** to the Scientific Jury to prepare a report proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Philology for choosing Ginka Alexandrova Bakardzhieva to hold the academic position of **Associate Professor** at the University of Plovdiv “Paisii Hilendarski” by professional field 2.1. Philology (Slavic Languages – Contemporary Czech language).

31st October 2020

Author of the statement of opinion:

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