

ASSESSMENT

of the materials, presented for application for the position of ‘**associate professor**’

of the University of Plovdiv Paisiy Hilendarski

in higher education area 2. Humanitarian sciences. Professional direction 2.1. Philology

(Slavic languages – Historic linguistics)

by Ani Kemalova PhD – associated professor

of the University of Plovdiv Paisiy Hilendarski

Assistant professor Atanaska Slavcheva Tosheva from the Russian philology department of the Faculty of philology of the University of Plovdiv Paisiy Hilendarski is the only applicant for the position of associated professor, the call for which was published in issue 57 of the state Gazette, 26 June, 2020, and the official web page of the University of Plovdiv (UP) Paisiy Hilendarski. The call for applications was made in order to meet the needs of the Russian philology department of the Faculty of philology.

As per Decree # R 33-4137 from 25 August, 2020 of the rector of the University of Plovdiv Paisiy Hilendarski, I was appointed as a member of the jury for the competition for the position of ‘**associate professor**’ of the University of Plovdiv Paisiy Hilendarski in higher education area 2. Humanitarian sciences. Professional direction 2.1. Philology, Scientific subject *Slavic languages* (Historic linguistics).

In accordance with the requirements of the national and the institutional legal framework (The Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act and the Statutes for its application; the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff in the University of Plovdiv Paisiy Hilendarski), the applicant, assistant professor Atanaska Tosheva, PhD, has presented 11 materials and documents on paper copy, including the mandatory reference for compliance with the minimal national requirements based on the indicators stipulated in Art. 2b, para 2 of the DASRB Act for the higher education area 2. Humanitarian sciences. Professional direction 2.1. Philology, for the position of associate professor (400 points).

The applicant has attached a total of 19 scientific publications: 1 monography, 1 book (based on the doctoral dissertation), 1 study, 1 dictionary-index, 15 articles and published reports in compilations and periodicals, of which 1 abroad and 14 in Bulgaria).

The main qualifying research of applicant Tosheva, *The Rila Redaction (1825) and the Copies of the Rila Edition of Slavonic-Bulgarian History (textology and language)* is a valuable scientific research which traces, both linguistically and textologically, the Rila Redaction of Slavonic-Bulgarian History and the copies of the so called Rila Edition. I fully agree that the monography possesses all the contributory factors formulated in the annotation by the author, in accordance with the requirements of the procedure for the present call for

applications, as per Art. 65 of the RDASUP. Herein I will try to concisely emphasize on the more important ones, in my own opinion.

In Chapter One of her research the author made an extensive yet precise in detail, analysis of the Redaction of 1825 which, in its 4 sections, reviews its paleographic specifics, structure, contents, main principles of compilation, textological and linguistic juxtaposition with three earlier manuscripts (the Zograph draft of 1762, the Samokov Copy of 1771 and the Nikofor Copy of 1772), as well as the text of *A History in Brief* by hieromonk Spiridon. With the ability for in-depth analysis, Atanaska Tosheva makes valid suggestions about the eventual protograph of the Rila Redaction, supporting her thesis both on textological and linguistic (morphological, syntactic, and lexical) level.

The Second and Third Chapters of the exhaustive scientific research are focused on the manuscripts of the Rila Edition of Slavonic-Bulgarian History, about which the author draws important genealogical conclusions and textological comparisons. A detailed paleographic and linguistic analysis of the four manuscripts comprising the Rila Edition 'family', is made.

The analysis in the entire Third Chapter is placed in the context of the development of the literary language and contains valuable indications for the codification of the contemporary Bulgarian language. Section Six of the last chapter makes a significant contribution to this purpose, with its observations on the genre- and stylistic specifics of the historiographic text.

Atanaska Tosheva's book offers a multilayer presentation and interpretation of the source material, thus expanding the range of its potential readers.

A large part of the remaining scientific research (1 study, 1 dictionary-index, and 10 articles –III.1.1., 3 to 6 with subject field **The Rila Redaction and the copies directly connected to it**, and III.1.2., 1 to 6 with subject field **Slavonic-Bulgarian literary language type** in the structure of the annotation required as per Art. 65 of the RDASUP), offered by the applicant affirm her long-lasting interest in the field of the research and show the stages of its conceptual logical building. The research from III (1 and 2 in the annotation) has significant scientific and practical value.

Five of the articles (III.2, 1 to 5 in the annotation) demonstrate the diversity of scientific research (lexicography, culturology, etc.) of assistant professor Atanaska Tosheva, PhD, outside the field of research of the monography.

I am convinced that the teaching and administrative activities and qualities are of particular importance for the position of associated professor. In this regard, I would like to accentuate on the fact that the educational and administrative activities of assistant professor Tosheva as a member of the academic staff of the UP Paisiy Hilendarski deserve to be applauded no less than her scientific work. I support my opinion not only with the rich reference attached to the documentation, but also with my personal observations. I have known Atanaska Tosheva for many years. She is a wonderful colleague and a devoted

educator. Under her guidance, tens of students of the Faculty of Philology have defended their Master's degree. She has participated in the preparation, update and adaptation of numerous programmes. She has been a member of a team of authors of the general strategy and the programme of one of the most attractive Bachelor's subjects in the Faculty of Philology – *Linguistics and marketing*. In her years of tenure in the UP she has worked in several committees of the Faculty, and continues to do so.

RECAPITULATION

The scientific research which the applicant has presented is sufficient in quantity and quality alike. It was published after the materials used for her doctoral thesis and only one of the proposed books is directly connected with the subject of her doctoral dissertation. In her research the applicant makes original scientific and practical contribution, some of which was published in magazines and compilations published by prestigious publishing houses.

The results achieved by the applicant Atanaska Tosheva, in her educational, administrative and scientific activities comply with the criteria and indicators for the academic position of associated professor, laid down in the DASRB Act, the Statutes for its application, and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff in the University of Plovdiv Paisiy Hilendarski.

After reviewing the materials and documents, attached to the application and analysing their significance and their scientific and practical contribution, I find it is only justified to give a **positive assessment** and to recommend to the scientific jury the preparation of a report offering to the Faculty council of the Faculty of Philology of the UP to approve the application of associate professor Atanaska Slavcheva Tosheva, PhD for the academic position of associated professor of the UP Paisiy Hilendarski, in higher education area 2. Humanitarian sciences. Professional direction 2.1. Philology, Scientific subject *Slavic languages* (Historic linguistics).

20 October 2020
Plovdiv

Assessment by:
(associate professor Ani Ivanova Kemalova, member of the scientific jury)