

ATTITUDE OF REVIEWER

by **Dr. Irina Nikolaeva Saraivanova – Professor, SU “St. Kliment Ohridski”**

regarding the materials submitted for participation in the competition
for the academic position “**Associate Professor**”
at **Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”**

in the area of higher education: 2. Humanities, professional field: 2.1. Philology (Modern Turkish Language)

The candidate participating in the competition for “Associate Professor” announced in the State Gazette, issue 92 of 18.11.2022, and on the Internet page of Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski” for the needs of the department of General Linguistics and the History of the Bulgarian Language at the Faculty of Philology, is Ch. Assistant Prof. Harun Harun Bekir from Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”

Overall presentation of the procedure and the candidate

Subject:

By order No. ПД-21-53 dated 16.01.2023 and order No. ПД-21-446 dated 28.02.2023 of the Rector of Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski” (PU), I have been appointed as a member of the Scientific Committee for the competition for the academic position “**Associate Professor**” at PU in the area of higher education 2. Humanities, professional field 2.1. Philology (Modern Turkish Language), **announced for the needs of** the Department of General Linguistics and the History of the Bulgarian Language at the Faculty of Philology.

Only one candidate has submitted documents for participation in the announced competition: Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Harun Harun Bekir from Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”
(acad. pos., sc. degr., name, surname, family name, from university or scientific organisation)

The set of paper materials submitted by Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Harun Bekir **meets** the requirements of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of PU and includes all the required documents.

The candidate Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Harun Bekir has submitted a total of 29 scientific works: 1 monograph – habilitation work, 1 book (based on a defended dissertation work for the educational and scientific degree “Doctor”), 5 studies, 22 articles; he has also participated in the compilation of a lexicographic work in two parts. 28 scientific works which are outside the dissertation have been accepted for review and are taken into account in the final evaluation, as well as two co-authored dictionaries.

Brief biographical data

Harun Bekir holds a master’s degree in Turkology from Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” (1998) and a doctorate in the area of higher education 2. Humanities, professional field 2.1. Philology, doctoral programme “General and Comparative Linguistics (Sociolinguistics)” at PU “Paisii Hilendarski” (2015). The candidate’s professional development is principally connected to teaching and research activities in the field of primary and higher education, which is complemented by his expertise in the Regional Inspectorate of Education. Since 2012, Harun Bekir has

been a full-time lecturer at PU “Paisii Hilendarski”, and in 2016 he became Chief Assistant Professor in the same university.

Overall characteristics of the applicant’s activities

The candidate’s professional qualification *Philologist. Teacher of Turkish language and literature* predetermines his realisation as a teacher and a lecturer in the higher education system. As a part-time and later full-time lecturer at PU “Paisii Hilendarski”, Harun Bekir teaches a number of practical and theoretical subjects in the field of Modern Turkish, including methodological disciplines. He is the author of new theoretical and practical courses and numerous curricula for the Bachelor’s and Master’s degree programmes. He is also involved in active work with students – he supervises 8 graduates who have successfully defended their theses. As a part of the academic staff at Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”, Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Harun Bekir also participates in the administrative and organisational activities of the Faculty of Philology as a member of five Faculty committees.

Evaluation of the candidate’s scientific and scientific-applied activities

The submitted habilitation thesis “Lexico-semantic pairs in the Turkish language” (UP “Paisii Hilendarski”, Plovdiv, 2022, 205 p.) [“Лексикално-семантичните двойки в турския език“ (УИ „Паисий Хилендарски“, Пловдив, 2022, 205 с.)] concerns issues which match the theme of the announced competition. The text delves into a linguistic phenomenon, which, although an object of interest examined by a number of researchers, has not been subjected to in-depth research, and often the emphasis has fallen on a comparative or contrastive aspect. In this monograph, the focus is on semantics, which marks the main theoretico-applied contribution of the habilitation work. The innovation in the conceptual apparatus of the Bulgarian language should be noted as an additional contribution. The submitted text makes it clear that Dr. Bekir has in-depth knowledge of the works of Turkish researchers dedicated to this issue. However, considering the specificity of the studied binomials, which do not represent a linguistic phenomenon characteristic only of the Turkish language, I believe that as an additional burden to the research, when deriving the term and conceptualising the studied issues, it is necessary to pay attention to scientific developments and concepts related to this phenomenon outside the Turkish linguistic space and outside the Turkish linguistic community. I also think that the formulation of an equivalent term to “lexico-semantic pair” in Turkish would stir the interest of researchers of this issue in and outside of Bulgaria and would represent a unique contribution to the present study.

In “Lexico-semantic pairs in the Turkish language” the studied binomials are analysed depending on the motivating base, their most essential typological characteristics are presented depending on their constituents, and a separate chapter is dedicated to the constructions formed by onomatopoeia. In the course of the analysis, emphasis is placed on their functions and their syntactic compatibility.

In the fourth chapter of the study, Harun Bekir presents his attempt at a classification, based on their functional-semantic characteristics. The bilingual presentation of the analysed constructions, which reaffirms the interest declared by Harun Bekir in the field of Turkish language teaching methodology and foreign language teaching, is a practical and applied contribution, and the applied dictionary should be considered not only another manifestation of the candidate’s lexicographic work, but also a necessary addition to the analysis of the studied linguistic units.

For participation in the competition, scientific treatments have also been presented mainly in the following fields: foreign language teaching and teaching methodology, language and educational policies, Turkish dialectology, Turkish linguistics, sociolinguistics. Harun Bekir’s publications, including reports from scientific forums, studies, articles in periodicals, reflect his scientific inter-

ests, and some of them have attracted the attention of the scientific and academic community in our country and in the Republic of Turkey, as evidenced by the appended list of citations. A publication specifically concerning the characteristics of the binomials in the Turkish language studied by the candidate has been cited in a scientific publication refereed and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information.

In the period 2016-2022, Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Harun Bekir has presented reports at 23 scientific forums in Bulgaria and Turkey; he has been repeatedly invited as a member of scientific and organisational committees at forums in the country and abroad.

Dr. Bekir's scientific research activity is complemented by his participation in international, national and intra-university scientific projects, as well as on the editorial boards of five periodicals connected with the Turkish language, literature and culture.

Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Harun Bekir has been elected as a Foreign Corresponding Member of the most prestigious Turkish language institution in the Republic of Turkey – the Turkish Language Institute, undoubtedly a high mark of the candidate's recognition abroad.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials submitted by Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Harun Harun Bekir **meet all** the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Rules for the implementation of LDASRB and the relevant Regulations of PU "Paisii Hilendarski".

The candidate in the competition has submitted a **sufficient** number of scientific works published after the materials used for the defence of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" and for the academic position "Chief Assistant Professor". The candidate's works offer original scientific and applied contributions. His theoretical treatments have practical applicability, with some of them directly oriented to teaching work. Dr. Harun Bekir's scientific and teaching qualifications are **beyond doubt**.

The results achieved by Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Harun Bekir in his educational and research activities **fully** meet the minimum national requirements of LDASRB.

After acquainting myself with the materials and scientific works presented in the competition, analysing their significance and the scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions contained in them, I find it reasonable to give my **positive** assessment and **to** recommend to the Scientific Committee to draw up a report-proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Philology to elect Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Harun Harun Bekir for the academic position "Associate Professor" at Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" in the area of higher education: 2. Humanities, professional field 2.1. Philology (Modern Turkish Language).

19.03.2023

Reviewer:

Prof. Dr. Irina Saraivanova