

REVIEWER'S OPINION

by Prof. Dimitar Dimitrov Popov, PhD,

from Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen

of the materials submitted for participation in a competition for the academic

position of **professor at Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv**

in area of higher education **2. Humanities; professional field 2.1. Philology**

(Modern Bulgarian Language)

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krasimira Angelova Chakarova, PhD, from Plovdiv University is the only candidate who has submitted documents in the competition for the position of professor, announced in the State Gazette, issue 98 of November 19, 2024 and on the website of Paisii Hilendarski University for the needs of the Department of Bulgarian Language at the Faculty of Philology.

1. Overall review of the procedure and the candidate

I have been appointed as a member of the jury in the competition for the academic position of professor at Plovdiv University in the area of higher education 2. Humanities, professional field 2.1. Philology (Modern Bulgarian Language), announced for the needs of the Department of Bulgarian Language at the Faculty of Philology by order No. PD 22-438 of 18.02.2025 issued by the Rector of Plovdiv University.

The only candidate who has submitted documents for participation in the announced competition was Assoc. Prof. Krasimira Angelova Chakarova, PhD, from Plovdiv University. The documents and materials submitted by her under the procedure are in full compliance with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at Plovdiv University.

The candidate Assoc. Prof. Krasimira Chakarova has submitted a total of 71 research papers (69 articles and two monographs). Her theoretical and applied research is presented in one handbook. Thus, a total of 72 papers were taken into consideration in the final evaluation under the procedure.

The presented production fully meets the requirements for the academic position of professor. Its substantive significance is evidenced by the numerous citations of Assoc. Prof.

Chakarova's contributions, of which only a small representative sample is indicated in the documents.

2. General characteristics of the candidate's work

Assoc. Prof. Krasimira Chakarova is one of the best researchers in the field of morphology and stylistics of the modern Bulgarian language. Her professional path is closely connected with the University of Plovdiv. After graduating in 1989, she worked for one year as a teacher of Bulgarian language and literature, after which from 1990 to the present day she has devoted herself to her academic career. She successively passed through the positions of part-time lecturer (1993-1994), assistant (1994-1997), senior assistant (1997-1999), chief assistant (1999-2001), and associate professor (since 2001). Over the years, Krasimira Chakarova has taught disciplines mainly related to the morphology and stylistics of the modern Bulgarian language. However, her teaching practice is much broader in terms of the academic disciplines she teaches and the specifics of the courses she teaches. She teaches not only in Plovdiv University, but also in other higher education institutions. The candidate's administrative experience, related to holding managerial positions at Plovdiv University and the University of Food Technologies - Plovdiv, is definitely impressive.

Krasimira Chakarova's publication output significantly exceeds the minimum scientometric requirements according to the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria for holding the position of professor. Her works present her as a significant scholar and punctual researcher. Krasimira Chakarova's numerous contributions are dedicated to debatable and insufficiently studied topics and issues in Bulgarian linguistics. As an excellent professional she always follows one important principle in her research: theoretical conclusions should always be based on a solid empirical basis. At the same time, a significant part of the articles, in which Krasimira Chakarova applies the operational approach and terminological tools of A. V. Bondarko's functional-semantic grammar, clearly demonstrate the advantages of this research paradigm in the study of the Bulgarian language. These works fit into the tradition of the Plovdiv functional school, to which Assoc. Prof. Krasimira Chakarova is one of the brightest representatives.

Among the author's significant contributions that have been submitted for the procedure, I would like to pay special attention to the habilitation monograph of Assoc. Prof. Chakarova *The category of verbal aspect in the modern Bulgarian language* (2025). The monograph, dedicated to the category of verbal aspect in the modern Bulgarian language,

could be defined as a natural continuation of the author's previous sound research, related to the linguistic means of expressing verbal quantity, which build one of the syncategorial fields within the framework of aspectuality. In the monograph, as in the book *Aspectuality and Quantity*, the author puts forward the concept of the trinomial paradigm of the Bulgarian verbal aspect, the formation of which is the result of complex interactions between the specific functional-semantic fields in the sphere of aspectuality. In this specific triad, along with initial (primary, without prefixes) verbs of the imperfective form, and verbs of the perfective form, formed from imperfectives most often by prefixation, the so-called grammatical iteratives (derived verbs formed from perfectives by adding the morpheme -va) are also included. And, since as iteratives express the idea of repetition of a given complex action without an indication of time or spatial limit, they turn out to be marked not by type, but by quantity (multiplicity). Therefore, in the construct proposed by Krasimira Chakarova, they are appropriately presented as parts (as a marked member) of the binomial crypto-category *repeatability*, represented by the private opposition *iterativeness ~ non-iterativeness* and closely related to the opposition *imperfect aspect ~ perfect aspect*.

The monograph consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, and a bibliography. This structure enables the author to fully present her original model of the category of Bulgarian verbal aspect, first highlighting its place in the existing research, and then discussing the question of the composition and structure of the functional-semantic field of aspectuality in the Bulgarian language. At the same time, Krasimira Chakarova presents it as "a broad linguistic sphere, uniting various means of expressing the "character of the course and distribution of action in time" (Peshkovski 1956: 105) and, at the same time, as a cluster of syncategorial functional-semantic fields (limitation, processivity, phase, multiplicity, etc.), united by this feature." However, the author does not limit herself to defining the macrofield of aspectuality, but also examines the peripheral modifiers operating in it. The researcher's focus though is quite naturally on the core category of verbal aspect. The formal-semantic and functional features of imperfectives, perfectives and grammatical iteratives are presented in detail, after which a separate chapter of the monograph examines the features of their functioning. Attention is paid to their interaction with the categories of tense, taxis and form of action; to the controversial issue of the opposition *imperfective: aorist*; to the use of verbal forms in expressing *prohibitiveness*; to the stylistic potential of the aspect.

Overall, the publications submitted under the procedure by Assoc. Prof. Krasimira Chakarova can be described as original and innovative. The innovative solutions she

proposes, based on a precise assessment of what has been achieved so far in the research in the area, are always backed up by empirical evidence and justified by the need to overcome existing imperfections and incompleteness in the description of the Bulgarian morphological system.

3. Critical remarks and recommendations

My only recommendation is rather a suggestion that the sound ideas and models proposed by Krasimira Chakarova find a quick way to both the teaching of Bulgarian morphology and the creation of adequate pedagogical materials for the study of Bulgarian as a foreign language.

CONCLUSION

The documents and papers submitted by Assoc. Prof. Krasimira Angelova Chakarova meet all the requirements of the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for the Implementation of the Act, and the relevant Regulations of Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv. The candidate in the competition has submitted a sufficient number of research papers published after the procedures for obtaining a doctoral degree and the position of associate professor. Assoc. Prof. Chakarova's research contributions are significant for both theory and teaching practice.

Upon reviewing the materials and research submitted for the competition, and analyzing their significance and contributions, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment and recommend that the Academic Jury prepare a report to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Philology for the promotion of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krasimira Angelova Chakarova to the academic position of professor at Paisiy Hilendarski University of Plovdiv in the area of higher education 2. Humanities, professional field 2.1. Philology (Modern Bulgarian Language).

03.04.2025

Reviewer:

(Prof. Dimitar Popov, PhD)