

OPINION

By competition for the academic position of "associate professor"

in the field of higher education 2. Humanities,

2.1. Philology (General and Comparative Linguistics),

according to the announcement in State Gazette, No. 98/19.11.2024.

Candidate: **Maryana Asenova Kartalova, PhD** – Chief Assistant at the Department of General Linguistics and History of the Bulgarian Language, Faculty of Philology,

Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv

Prepared by **Associate Professor Boryan Georgiev Yanev, PhD**, Faculty of Philology,

Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv

By Order No. RD-22-72 of 17.01.2025 of the Rector of Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv, I have been appointed a member of the scientific jury for competition for the rank of Associate Professor in 2.1. The department of Philology (General and Comparative Linguistics) at Plovdiv University has nominated the candidate as Chief Assistant, Mariana Asenova Kartalova, PhD.

I. General characteristics of the submitted materials

The electronic documents were submitted by the Chief Assistant Kartalova, PhD, meets the Regulations for Development of Academic Staff at Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv. The candidate has submitted 21 scientific publications for consideration in the newly opened competition. The documents presented are all eligible for consideration since there are no duplicates of documents previously used for scientific or academic purposes.

As for the type of publication, they include 1 monograph – specified as a habilitation thesis ('Family Names of Bulgarians Motivated by Profession or Craft.' Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski University Press, 2024. 248 pp.) and a monograph as a publication of her doctoral dissertation for obtaining the Educational and Scientific Degree "Doctor" ('The Linguistic Picture of the World, Reflected Through Zoo- and Phyto-Component Phraseological Units (Comparative Study Between Bulgarian and Modern Greek)', Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski University Press, 2022. 440 pages). Additionally, 19 papers in refereed expert journals have been submitted for the process, 6 published overseas.

Chief Assistant Mariana Kartalova, PhD, fulfils the necessary scientometric prerequisites for the rank of 'Associate Professor' following the Regulations of PU and the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

The pedagogic activity of the candidate includes 2 main courses in the philological education of the students – Introduction to General Linguistics (lectures and seminars), Communications and Communication Policy (lectures), and one optional and two electives: Theory of Translation, Main Aspects of Modern Greek Grammar, and Linguistics (the last one in the interests of the Pedagogy Faculty). M. Kartalova's instructional engagement is significant, pointing to the necessity of her habilitation. Additionally, she works in two fields of her speciality: general linguistics and Modern Greek studies.

II. General characteristics of the candidate's scientific and scientific-applied activity. Fundamental scientific and/or scientific-applied contributions

Chief Assistant Mariana Kartalova, PhD, has published scientific papers that represent a substantial scientific contribution, which is a great personal achievement on the part of the candidate. The subject matter of her research is in well-established fields in the Department of General Linguistics and History of the Bulgarian Language, where scholars have already achieved both national and international acclaim. It is praiseworthy that the applicant adheres to the universally accepted scientific regulations in the science of general and comparative linguistics and strives to enhance them.

In the study, "Family Names of Bulgarians, motivated by Profession or Craft", a comprehensive analysis of the Bulgarian nomenclature system is presented. The research is aimed at achieving two major objectives, as I see it: to reveal the subtleties of Bulgarian national psychology and subculture through linguistic analysis of the given anthroponyms, as well as their indexical representation in an intralinguistic environment, where motivating designations are considered. For the aims of her study, Kartalova used 1670 family names, which were categorized by origin into domestic and foreign origin. Examples with Turkish and Greek etymons, and others from other languages, are naturally drawn to etymologically foreign-language names, among which the number of names with Romance language group appellatives is remarkable. When describing the names with a Turkish etymological basis, the author can also use the article "Bulgarian-Turkish Lexical Parallels with a View to the Family Names of Bulgarians, Motivated

by Names of Professions" – in the collection "Bulgaria and Turkey at the Intercultural Crossroads: Language, History, Literature", pp. 205-233, ISBN 978-954-423-780-6, authors Boryan Yanev and Ivan Chobanov.

The methodology elaborated by Kartalova and the outcomes of the habilitation research can be applied by other researchers in further comparative research. Additionally, the descriptive and exceptional-classificational character of the research would make possible more extensive investigations into the topic.

The author has taken a serious attitude toward the issues under investigation, and the resulting findings and implications are representative and exhaustive. The accuracy and consistency of the exposition of the topics, characteristic of writers with academic integrity, make a very good impression.

I would like to reiterate my comments regarding her PhD thesis with the title 'The Linguistic Picture of the World, Reflected Through Zoo- and Phyto-Component Phraseological Units (Comparative Study Between Bulgarian and Modern Greek)' despite its previous evaluation for a previous academic degree. In my opinion, this work is an excellent comparative linguistics study.

Despite its previous evaluation for a previous academic degree, I would like to restate my remarks on her PhD thesis with the title 'The Linguistic Picture of the World, Reflected Through Zoo- and Phyto-Component Phraseological Units (Comparative Study Between Bulgarian and Modern Greek).' This work, I consider, is an excellent study in the field of comparative linguistics.

I will take the opportunity to introduce some of these works, which I find representative of the competition for novelty: 'Observations on the phyto-component as a comparatum in figurative and fixed comparisons in the Bulgarian language' (IX International Scientific and Practical Conference "Theoretical and Practical Aspects of the Development of Science and Education", March 05 – 08, 2024, Prague, Czech Republic, pp. 214 – 222. ISBN 979-8-89292-739-0; DOI 10.46299/ISG.2024.1.9); 'The paremic world of Bulgarians – positive thematic fields' (In a collection of reports from the VIII International Scientific and Practical Conference "Science and Technologies", Almaty, Kazakhstan, 2024, pp. 121 – 128. ISBN 978-601-332-668-9); 'Bulgarian proverbs and sayings with the component "body part" as an expression of the national psychology of Bulgarians' (VI International Scientific and Practical Conference "Scientific Directions of Research in Educational Activity", February 14 - 17, 2023, Osaka, Japan, pp. 339 - 343. ISBN 979-8-88896-531-3. DOI 10.46299/ISG.2023.1.6); 'The diploma project - a student challenge or

an easy path to acquiring an educational qualification degree' (In: The diploma thesis - from the framework of the regulations to the freedom of creativity. Plovdiv University Publishing House, 2022, pp. 71-80. ISBN 978-619-7663-40-2); 'Oaths and the national psychology of Bulgarians' (Intuition and competence in language, literature and education, Plovdiv: Horizons, pp. 89 – 97. ISBN 978-619-7187-11-3), etc.

III. Conclusion

The documents and materials presented by Chief Assistant Maryana Asenova Kartalova, PhD, comply with the terms set out in the Law for Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Implementation Rules of the above Law, and the Rules for Development of Academic Staff at Plovdiv University. Kartalova has produced a remarkable amount of scientific output following the sources used in pursuing the Educational and Scientific Degree "PhD". Her research contributes to scientific research and practical application. Therefore, I strongly support the nomination of Maryana Kartalova as "Associate Professor" in the professional field of 2.1. Philology (General and Comparative Linguistics).

Date: 11.03.2025

Member of the Scientific Jury:

Plovdiv

/Assoc. Prof. Boryan Georgiev Yanev, PhD/