

OPINION

by Dr. Milena Petrova Yordanova –
Professor at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"
on the materials submitted for participation in the competition
for the academic position of Associate Professor
at Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski"

Field of higher education 2. Humanities

Professional field 2.1. Philology (General and Comparative Linguistics)

In the competition for "Associate Professor" announced in the State Gazette, issue 98 of 19.11.2024 and on the internet page of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" for the needs of the Department of General Linguistics and History of the Bulgarian Language at the Faculty of Philology, as a candidate participates Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Mariyana Assenova Kartalova from the Department of General Linguistics and History of the Bulgarian Language at the Faculty of Philology of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski".

Overall presentation of the procedure and the candidate

By Order No. RD-22-72 dated 17.01.2025 of the Rector of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" (PU), I have been appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury of the competition for the academic position of 'Associate Professor' at PU in the field of higher education 2. Humanities, professional field 2.1. Philology (General and Comparative Linguistics), announced for the needs of the Department of General Linguistics and History of the Bulgarian Language at the Faculty of Philology. I have been selected as the author of an opinion on the procedure at the first meeting of the scientific jury.

Only one candidate has submitted documents for participation in the competition Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Mariyana Assenova Kartalova from Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski". The set of materials submitted by the candidate is in accordance with the

Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of PU, and includes the following documents: an application for admission to the competition; a professional curriculum vitae; a copy of the diploma of higher education with an acquired educational and qualification degree "Master"; a copy of the diploma for the educational and scientific degree "Doctor"; a list of academic works and publications; academic works (copies of publications); a list of citations; a certificate for compliance with the minimum national requirements; annotation of the materials in Bulgarian and English; self-assessment of research contributions in Bulgarian and English; declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents; certificate of work experience; documents on teaching work; certificate for participation in any scientific research projects. Attached are various diplomas, certificates and other documents certifying the colleague's activities.

In accordance with the attached reference for meeting the minimum national requirements under the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB) and the reference from National Centre for Information and Documentation (NACID), I confirm that Dr. Mariana Kartalova meets all indicators of the minimum national requirements.

Mariyana Assenova Kartalova is a graduate of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski", where she successively studied in the three degrees of higher education. She studied in the Bachelor's programme "Bulgarian and New Greek" (2007–2011), where she obtained a professional qualification as a teacher of Bulgarian and New Greek language and literature; she graduated (2012) from the Master's programme "Current Bulgarian Studies" (topic of the Master's thesis "Persistent comparisons with animistic comparatum in Bulgarian and New Greek"). In 2016 she acquired the scientific and educational degree "Doctor" after her studies in the PhD program "General and Comparative Linguistics" (thesis topic "Phraseological units with zoo- and phytocomponent in Bulgarian and Greek"). Since 2018 she has been working as an assistant professor and chief assistant professor at the Department of General Linguistics and History of the Bulgarian Language at the Faculty of Philology of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski".

General characteristics of the applicant's activities

For participation in the competition for "Associate Professor" Dr. Mariyana Kartalova has submitted one habilitation thesis; one monograph published on the basis of a defended dissertation and 19 articles, of which one published in a scientific journal, refereed and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information. In general, the publication activity of Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Mariyana Kartalova could be divided into two thematic areas: On the one hand – publications in the field of phraseology, where the study of phraseological word combinations representing figurative and stable similes or proverbs and sayings is strongly involved; on the other hand - publications in the field of onomastics with an emphasis on anthroponymy. Quite naturally, the two thematic areas in the candidate's scientific production intersect and as a result, publications are made in which an attempt is made to trace the actualization of proper names in various phraseological units. While the dissertation for the degree of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" ("Phraseological units with zoo- and phyto-component in Bulgarian and Greek") is in the field of phraseology, the habilitation thesis "Bulgarian surnames motivated by profession and craft" by the colleague Kartalova is in the field of onomastics. The enduring interest in these two linguistic areas clearly shows the seriousness of the candidate's training. The monograph, submitted as a habilitation thesis for the present competition, is an in-depth study of Bulgarian surnames derived from the names of professions and crafts. In the book, the colleague introduces the reader to the topic, giving an overview of the development of the Bulgarian anthroponym system and of the crafts in the Bulgarian lands. In the third chapter of the monograph, the colleague has divided the excerpted material into 17 thematic groups, with the semantics of the motivating lexeme listed against each surname. Dr. Kartalova comes to an interesting conclusion based on the analyzed data, according to which it is found that there are surnames that can be assigned to more than one thematic group (pp. 70-71). The synonymy in Bulgarian surnames is usually due to the fact that both domestic and foreign words have been used in our language to name a particular profession or craft. It makes a good impression that the colleague presents the emprunological path of borrowings in its entirety, without limiting herself to the intermediary language (usually Turkish). In view of the conclusions drawn with regard

to synonymy, quite naturally these data overlap to some extent with the conclusions regarding the etymology of the type of Bulgarian surnames under consideration. The statistical data clearly show that Bulgarian surnames (over 80%) motivated by occupations and crafts, represented by words of foreign origin, significantly predominate. The leading place (about 2/3) among them is held by borrowings of Turkish origin, although nowadays most of these words naming professions and crafts are not part of the literary layer of our language, but are part of the dialect lexicon. An important conclusion of the monograph is that whatever the origin of the words motivating the surnames under study, they reflect professions and crafts that were traditionally practiced in our lands (p. 155). On the other hand, there is a tendency that the disappearance of a profession or craft leads to the disappearance of the surname as well. The alphabetical index of the excised Bulgarian surnames of the type under consideration, appended at the end of the habilitation thesis, is an extremely useful guide that can be used not only by specialists, but also by anyone interested in this subject.

Candidate Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Mariyana Kartalova has submitted a list of citations in scientific publications, from which it is clear that she has met the required number of points according to the minimum national requirements.

As a member of the scientific jury, at the time of the submission of the opinion, no signals have been sent to me about the presence of any unlawful use of scientific publications by the candidate.

Critical remarks and recommendations

I would like to recommend to Dr. Kartalova to expand the network of conferences and periodicals in which she publishes her articles and papers, so that the results of her research can reach a larger readership.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials, submitted by Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Mariyana Assenova Kartalova meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for the

Implementation of the LDASRB and the relevant Regulations of Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”.

The candidate in the competition has submitted a sufficient number of scientific works published after the materials used in the defense of the PhD. There are original scientific and applied contributions in the candidate's works, which have received international recognition as a representative part of them have been published in journals and scientific collections. The theoretical developments presented for the competition have practical applicability, some of them being directly oriented to teaching work. The scientific and teaching qualification of Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Mariyana Kartalova are beyond doubted.

The achievements of Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Mariyana Assenova Kartalova results in teaching and scientific research activities fully comply with the minimum national and additional requirements of the Faculty of Philology, adopted in connection with the Regulations of the PU for the implementation of the LDASRB.

After reading the materials and scientific works presented in the competition, analyzing their significance and scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions contained in them, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment and to recommend the Scientific Jury to draw-up a report-proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Philology to elect Ch. Assistant Prof. Dr. Mariyana Assenova Kartalova to the academic position “Associate Professor” at Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski” in the field of higher education: 2. Humanities, professional field 2.1. 2.1. Philology (General and Comparative Linguistics).

17.03.2025 г.

Reviewer:

(signature)

(Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova)