

OPINION

by Prof Vera Tervel Marovska, DSc

Professor at the Department of Bulgarian Language at the Faculty of Philology

at Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv

of the materials submitted for participation in the competition

to acquisition of the academic position **Associate Professor**

at Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv

in filed of higher education: 2. Humanitarian Sciences;

professional field 2.1. Philology (General and comparative linguistics)

In the competition for "Associate Professor", announced in the State Gazette No 98 of 19.11.2024 and on the website of the Paisiy Hilendarski University of Plovdiv, for the needs of the Department of General Linguistics and History of the Bulgarian Language at the Faculty of Philology, the only candidate participating is **Senior Assistant Mariana Asenova Kartalova, PhD** from the same department.

1. General presentation of the procedure and the candidate

By order No. PD-22-72 of 17.01.2025 of the Rector of Paisiy Hilendarski University of Plovdiv, I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury of the competition for the academic position of '**Associate Professor**' at **Plovdiv University** under the described nomenclature.

The candidate in the competition for *Associate Professor*, senior assistant Mariyana As. Kartalova, completed her secondary education in 2007 at the Professional High School of Tourism "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov", Plovdiv. In 2011, she obtained her Bachelor's degree in Pedagogy of Teaching Bulgarian and Modern Greek at the Paisiy Hilendarski University of Plovdiv, and in 2012 – Master in Contemporary Bulgarian Studies. In the period 2013 - 2016, she was a doctoral student at the Department of General Linguistics and History of the Bulgarian Language at the Faculty of Philology with academic supervisor Assoc. Prof Stanka Kozarova. In 2016, she defended her doctoral dissertation titled *Phraseological Units with Zoo- and Phyto-Components in Bulgarian and Greek*.

The package of documents presented by. M. Kartalova includes a administrative and operational documents, meeting the requirements of the Regulations for the Development of

the Academic Staff of Plovdiv University, as well as scientific papers and annotations to them, as well as other documents according to legal requirements.

2. General characteristics of the candidate's activity:

Senior Assistant Mariyana As. Kartalova participates in the competition with 2 monographs - one as a habilitation work¹, and the other was published based on her doctoral dissertation². Her research work also includes 19 articles published in the period from 2015 to the present in recognized journals (refereed, to scientific databases - Scopus, COBISS, NACID, CEEOL, Crossref, Google Scholar, OUCI (Open Ukrainian Citation Index), etc.); 9 citations; participation in 2 intra-university projects. 12 participations in international and national scientific forums, seminars, round tables, etc. are also presented.

For 2024-25 M. Kartalova has 600 (+ 155) hours of teaching time, and for the previous 3 years she has a total of 1434 (+ 411) hours.

Mariyana Kartalova participates in the competition with a total of 530 points (400 points required).

She has developed lecture courses in the disciplines *Introduction to General Linguistics* – 7 options and *Communications and Communication Policy* – 2 options. She has also lectured in *Translation Theory and Basic Aspects of Modern Greek Grammar* (in two parts).

Senior Assistant Kartalova devotes a large part of her time to working with outstanding students – she is the supervisor of numerous diploma theses; a reviewer, consultant and scientific supervisor of student reports and other research activities of a scientific and scientific-methodological nature.

The scientific, organizational and scientific-administrative work of M. Kartalova are also impressive – she is a regular representative of the Department of General Linguistics and History of the Bulgarian Language in the Organizing Committee for the conduct of the Paisii Readings; she is a member of the Commission for Accreditation and Quality Control of Education at the Faculty of Philology; she is responsible for conducting the questionnaire surveys at the Faculty of Philology and their analysis; she annually organizes (together with

¹ Kartalova, M. *The Surnames of Bulgarians Motivated by Profession or Craft*. Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Publishing House, 2024, 245 p. ISBN 978-619-202-995-1

² *The linguistic picture of the world, reflected through zoo- and phyto-component phraseologisms* (a comparative study between the Bulgarian and Modern Greek languages). Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski University Press, 2024, 245 pp. ISBN 978-619-202-772-8, COBISS.BG-ID – 54111752.

other faculty) a Round Table on Onomastics (the last one commemorating Prof Ivan Chobanov); she is a member of the University committee on internal audit, etc.

M. Kartalova is an ethical and well-intentioned colleague, respected and responsive not only to the students but also to her fellow faculty members. She is a tireless initiator and organizer of most personal anniversary celebrations and deserves the sympathy and gratitude of everyone.

3. Characteristics of the presented scientific production

The research work of Senior Assistant M. Kartalova is in the field of phraseology and onomastics. In this context, however, it also includes a number of other philological and general philosophical problems related to the aforementioned areas – on socio-historical and economic issues and interpretations, on psychology and psycholinguistics and on attitudes and reflections with a folk psychological basis, as well as issues of a general philosophical nature. And in this sense, the works with which she participates in the competition can be practically constantly renewed and updated, without omitting or ignoring the need for the author's personal contributions to be clearly highlighted (some of her previous publications bear a similar remark). One of her publications is of practical-methodological nature.

The monographs cited in the footnotes and several articles, presented in the list of annotations under numbers 4, 6, 8, 11, 12, 15, 18, 20, 21, are dedicated to phraseologisms and their problematics, including structural and grammatical ones. They offer valuable observations due to the comparisons with Modern Greek, which often tempt the author, although most of the research with which she participates in the competition for Associate Professor is on the Bulgarian language. One of the stylistic and linguistic figures, almost obligatory for phraseologisms, is comparisons, and this fact is taken into account and quite versatily commented on by M. Kartalova (mainly from the point of view of its logical-linguistic structure and the phyto- or zoo-component contained in it, part of the body or the qualification *beautiful / nice* in a worldview aspect).

The second thematic group of studies is related to the personal and family names of the Bulgarians and their genesis (the monographs cited in footnote 1 and several articles in the list of annotations under numbers 1, 2, 5, 13, 14). The author's habilitation thesis for this competition, is also dedicated to this issue. On other occasions, I have shared my view that the national-psychological interpretation of the analyzed issues is the basis of some of the most interesting and readable linguistic texts. Including because anthroponyms reveal

relationships and dependencies of a different nature – socio-historical, culturological, economic, psychological, etc., and they are quite curious for every reader. "*The subject of research in the monograph on surnames is focused on etymology, synonymous relationships and their thematic classification*" (in the words of the author), and the emphasis is on those of them that are motivated by a profession or craft and relate mainly to the end of the 19th (to the beginning of the 21st century). 1670 anthroponymic units have been excerpted, separated into 2 large groups - of domestic and foreign origin (mainly Turkish, Greek, from Romance and other languages).

The habilitation thesis is organized into 5 chapters: the first is a literary review, but it also examines and comments on the normative documents governing the naming of Bulgarians; the second is devoted to historical and economic issues surrounding the development of crafts in the Bulgarian territories; the third is the thematic classification of the considered surnames; the fourth examines some synonymous relationships, and the fifth proposes the etymological classification of the names. Synonymous relationships are characteristic of 651 names, grouped into 92 synonymous nests. The ratio between domestic and foreign names is respectively 19% to 81%, with 68% of the latter being Turkish.

In conclusion, the author emphasizes that the surnames show more stability and affinity to tradition than the personal and the father's names. Productive in the naming are crafts from the Bulgarian way of life - cattle breeding, agriculture, trade and the production of fabrics and objects made of wood and metals. Reflected in the Bulgarian naming system, they provide reliable data on the socio-economic and cultural processes in the 19th century.

The book also has an alphabetical index of the names inspired by a profession or a craft, as well as other aids. It is intended for the widest possible readership.

Different points of view on naming and surnames are also contained in the other publications of the author, with which she participates in the competition for Associate Professor (they are visible from the titles of the publications themselves - in the list with numbers 3, 7, 9, 16, 17, 19). It can be said that they occupy a central position between the issues of phraseological units and anthroponyms. It is significant that as a result of the analyses made, one gradually begins to outline the global picture of the world, reflected through the language of the Bulgarians, and this is a circle of questions of a multidisciplinary and intercultural nature, whose philosophy is both a temptation and a challenge for every researcher.

4. Critical remarks and recommendations

The main purpose of this review is to confirm or deny the qualities of the candidate, that makes her worthy of the academic position of *Associate Professor*. What has been said so far is a confirmation that senior assistant Mariyana As. Kartalova has the necessary competence, teaching experience and scientific authority to be elected as an Associate Professor at the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv.

I have no critical remarks or recommendations regarding her scientific research, teaching and scientific organizational achievements. I wish her good health so that she can continue to implement them at the necessary pace.

CONCLUSION

After reviewing and analyzing the materials and scientific papers presented in the competition, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment of the candidate's scientific and teaching activities and to recommend to the Scientific Jury to prepare a report proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Philology for the election of Senior Assistant Mariyana Asenova Kartalova, PhD, to the academic position of "Associate Professor" at Paisiy Hilendarski University of Plovdiv in field of higher education 2. Humanitarian Sciences; professional field 2.1. Philology (General and Comparative Linguistics).

11.03.2025

Plovdiv

Reviewer:

(Prof Vera Marovska, DSc)