



OPINION

from Prof. Dr Hab. Nikolay Aretov Aretov, Institute for Literature, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

for obtaining the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in scientific field 3.5. Social Communications and Information Sciences. with a dissertation on the topic: "Spanish Language Narrative Journalism in Latin America from mid-20th century till nowadays", presented by Vladimir Georgiev Stoichkov, full-time doctoral student in the Department Communication and Audiovisual Production of the Faculty of Journalism and Mass Communication

with supervisor: Prof. Dr Hab. Milko Petrov

I. Evaluation of the qualities of the dissertation text

II. Contributions of the dissertation research

The problems addressed by the dissertation are undoubtedly important and relevant, and not only in the Bulgarian context. Considerable material has been collected, which is well systematized and presented. It does not contain any new facts and interpretations, but a significant part of it is unknown to the Bulgarian public. The dissertation student has the ambition to use newer methods of analysis as well as classification of the considered texts. The lists in the tables would be better not in alphabetical order, but chronologically, maybe by popularity. I would not say this classification is anything new, some of the genre definitions used can be challenged, but overall it works well for the needs of the text. Some well-known authors and texts, for example books by Gabriel García Márquez and Mario Vargas Llosa, are successfully presented, introducing the less familiar context of their origin.

His publications (articles and interviews) in Bulgarian, which popularize Latin American culture in our country, are a serious merit of the overall activity of the dissertation student. (Many of his publications in foreign publications indirectly help build the authority of Bulgarian researchers in the eyes of the public around the world.)

The bibliographic awareness of the work is good, the text can be used as references as



to what, when, and by whom it was translated into Bulgarian, and to a large extent also what is the reader and critical reception of the considered authors and books. The abstract is correctly prepared and fully corresponds to the text of the dissertation.

III. Notes and recommendations

In accordance with the professional specialization of the author, in some places, the text is more journalistic than strictly academic.

Repetitions abound in the text, which can easily be removed. There are too many typos, the author did not resort to spell checking. Some of the terms are given in questionable transliteration – квалитативно and квантитативно, руптура (rupture), катецизъм, separate unnecessary foreigners are also found - reparation (i.e. repair). It is inaccurate to write „книгата „Метаморфозис“ на Франц Кафка“, папа Хуан Павел II.

Due to the enormous volume of researched material, some of the texts are probably known secondhand (from what was written about them), disturbing the citation of Oriana Fallaci through the author's own publication (Stoitchkov, 2020, p. 26). Most links to the author's articles (<http://cort.as/-STjn>, <https://n9.cl/9yk7j...>), at least for me, do not work.

Some of the author's theses are too general (that is, they can be applied to many other phenomena), and others are debatable. Three examples, spelling preserved:

Here we can make a parallel with the erotic as a carrier of the mysterious challenge, which is in the basis of the Greco-Roman tradition and so is respectively in the basis of the concept of the Western European culture, whose influence has spread through all continents in the period of colonization (p. 91).

.... the technologic basis of the last century cinema doesn't allow the recreation of the dream visions, which abound in texts of the Columbian writer and journalist (p. 91)

The archetypes in general are a product of different human cultures and vary according to geography, the age and the corresponding norms and rules from social, political and religious character. (p. 136).

IV. Publications and participation in scientific forums

The author has numerous publications that meet the requirements of the Regulations for the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at the University of Sofia "St. Kliment Ohridski". Vladimir Stoichkov is the author of several literary works, 3 published in Bulgarian and 3 in Spanish, which are indirectly related to his



research activities. His autobiography does not indicate participation in scientific forums but lists several appearances as a "conference speaker" at various literary events in Bulgaria, Cuba, and Argentina. To this must be added his media appearances, as well as his work (as an associate professor) at the universities of Loja and Quito (Ecuador).

V. Conclusion

Bearing in mind the efforts invested by the candidate in the study, his good knowledge of the Spanish language literature and journalism in Latin America I endorse the candidature of Vladimir Georgiev Stoichkov for the educational and scientific degree of Doctor in professional field 2.1. 5. Social Communications and Information Sciences.

Jury member:

Prof. Dr Hab. Nikolay Aretov

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