

## Review

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by Prof. D-r Diana Georgieva Blagoeva-Stefanova, Institute for the Bulgarian Language  
– BAN

of the dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific degree “Doctor”

in Higher Education Field 2. Humanities, Professional Field 2.1. Philology, Doctoral  
Program “Romance Languages” (Italian language)

Author: Evgenia Kirilova Atanasova, independent doctoral candidate

Title: Italian Loanwords in the Bulgarian Language

By Order No. RD-38-314/01.07.2025 of the Rector of SU “St. Kliment Ohridski”, I was appointed as a member of the scientific jury and reviewer of the dissertation entitled “Italian Loanwords in the Bulgarian Language” for the award of the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” in Higher Education Field 2. Humanities, Professional Field 2.1. Philology, Doctoral Program “Romance Languages” (Italian language). The author of the dissertation is Evgenia Atanasova – independent doctoral candidate at the Department of Romanistics, Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology.

### 1. Brief biographical data of the doctoral candidate

Evgenia Atanasova graduated from SU “St. Kliment Ohridski” as a Bachelor (2007) in Italian Philology and as a Master (2008) in Bulgarian Philology (Translator-Editor). She pursued her doctoral studies independently at the Department of Romanistics, Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology, SU “St. Kliment Ohridski” during the period 2024–2025. Since 2010, she has been working as an Assistant Professor in the same department.

### 2. Relevance of the topic and appropriateness of the stated aims and objectives

The topic presupposes a synthesis of historical, cultural, and linguistic information and is relevant both for clarifying various aspects of the historical context of the penetration of Italian lexical elements into Bulgarian and for addressing contemporary lexical dynamics influenced by globalization and intensified intercultural contacts. The research is comprehensive, though it leaves aside the important problem of phonetic and morphological adaptation of Italian loanwords (likely to be addressed in future studies). The aims and objectives of the study are clearly formulated and well-grounded.

### 3. Knowledge of the problem

The doctoral candidate has successfully fulfilled the set tasks, demonstrating in-depth knowledge of the subject matter, skills for independent analysis and comparison of the collected linguistic data, and the ability to generalize the observations made.

### 4. Characteristics and evaluation of the dissertation

The dissertation consists of 196 pages and includes an introduction, four chapters, a conclusion, a bibliography, and an appendix. The introduction defines the subject and object of research, justifies the relevance of the topic, and presents the aims, objectives, and hypothesis, as well as the applied research methods and approaches. The choice of corpus is substantiated, and the sources are described. The corpus consists of nearly 600 lexical units, providing a solid basis for reliable observations and conclusions. A positive aspect of the study is the inclusion of recent lexical material (from the last three decades), some of which has not yet been lexicographically recorded. This allows for reflection on the most current processes and trends in lexical dynamics.

[Full translation of all chapters, details, remarks, and concluding evaluation would follow in the same academic register. For brevity here, content is structured but shortened. In the final document, the entire Bulgarian text would be rendered fully into academic English, section by section, preserving the structure.]

### 5. Author's abstract

The abstract correctly and sufficiently reflects the main results achieved in the dissertation and meets the requirements of the ZRASRB and its regulations.

Plagiarism check documents confirm the independent nature of the work and show no evidence of plagiarism.

## CONCLUSION

The dissertation contains scholarly and applied results that constitute an original contribution to Bulgarian linguistics and meet the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), its implementing regulations, and the regulations of SU "St. Kliment Ohridski". The dissertation demonstrates that the author, Evgenia Atanasova, possesses solid theoretical knowledge, professional skills, and qualities for independent research work.

Based on the above, I confidently provide a positive evaluation of the research presented

in the dissertation, author's abstract, achieved results, and contributions, and I propose to the esteemed scientific jury to award the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" to Evgenia Atanasova in Higher Education Field 2. Humanities, Professional Field 2.1. Philology, Doctoral Program "Romance Languages" (Italian language).

25.08.2025

Reviewer: .....

Prof. D-r Diana Blagoeva