

## STANDPOINT

Assoc. Prof. Marinela Paraskova Mladenova, PhD  
member of the scientific jury in the competition for the academic position “Associate professor ” in 2.1. Philology (Slavic languages – Czech language) announced in the No. 93 State Gazette of November 26, 2019 pp 114-128.

Subject: Scientific and professional activities and academic production of the participants in the competition

The only participant in the competition is a Chief Assistant Stiliyan Stoychev, Ph.D., a lecturer at the Department of Slavic Linguistics at the Faculty of Slavic Philologies, Sofia University "Kliment Ohridski".

The submitted documents and materials have been carefully prepared and are in compliance with the Law for academic body's development in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules for the law's implementation, as well as the Rules for the requirements for acquiring scientific titles and hiring in academic positions at the Sofia University “St. St. Climent Ohridski”. The candidate meets the minimum national requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Internal Regulations of Sofia University "Kliment Ohridski" for the occupation of the academic position "Associate professor ".

1. Evaluation of the scientific and practical results of the applicant's scientific production.

1.1. General description of the presented materials

For participation in the competition Dr. Stilian Stoychev have presented impressive production, including 34 scientific publications with a total volume of 921 pages. Of these, two Monographs (403 and 356 pages); one scientific research - 55 pages, 24 scientific articles and 7 reviews. A list of authors' publications, including two Czech language textbooks, with a total volume of 530 pages, is presented separately, as well as a list of dictionaries, textbooks and teaching aids - co-authored by Dr. Stoychev, including 3 dictionaries, 4 textbooks and 25 teaching aids. All publications are on the subject of the announced competition.

1.2. Evaluation of the scientific and practical results of the applicant's scientific production.

1.2.1. Habilitation Monograph

Stilian Stoychev participates in the competition with a Habilitation Monograph on *The bulgarian relative and the Czech language (Or on the modern Bulgarian morphological relative and its functional equivalents in the modern Czech language.*

The author analyzes the forms of the marked grammeme *relative* of the Bulgarian morphological verbal category *taxis* in its capacity as a core morphological means of

expressing the same 'relativity' and their functional equivalents in modern Bulgarian and modern Czech. The main thesis, which is convincingly argued is that in Bulgarian language relativity has an independent categorical character and, unlike in the Czech language, taxis relations are morphologized. In the first section of the study temporal relations of precedence, simultaneity and continuity are presented in relation to the three basic temporal plans - present, future and past. The similarities between the two languages in explaining the relation of the action (or the result of it) to the different orientation points are outlined, and the main difference between them is noted - the presence in the Bulgarian language within the marked grammeme relative of the category Taxis of special grammemes – the relative present and the relative future. The second section is devoted almost entirely to the Bulgarian category Taxis. Stilian Stoychev accepts that the signs of testimony and distance are not the same in the category of taxis, but in a separate morphological category, called by him Evidentiality of the activity. In his opinion, it is tripartite – with an unmarked grammeme non-evidential and marked grammemes witness evidential and distant evidential. The Bulgarian verbal categories taxis and evidentiality of the activity are smoothly combined and have common word forms (thesis presented in another of his publications and further developed in the third section of the monograph).

The modern Czech language is assumed not to have a category identical or similar to the Bulgarian taxis, but the author supposes that there are preserved taxis relicts occurring on the periphery of the Czech verb system - the so-called antepreteritis and past conditional. The brief analysis of the category of taxis in both languages gives rise to the conclusion that the paradigms of the Bulgarian and Czech relatives (assuming that they exist in Czech) are completely asymmetrical.

The third section presents the Czech functional equivalents of the Bulgarian relative. The relations between the taxis marked grammeme relative in Bulgarian and the categories aspect, status, person, number, genus, time, type of action, type of statement, inclination, pledge and the independent morphological category introduced by the author - Evidentiality of the activity.

Particularly important for both the typological and comparative Slavic linguistics, as well as the theory and practice of translation, are the conclusions at the end of the Chapter three. The author notes that the decomposition of the category Taxis in the Czech language affects its relationship with almost all the verb categories under consideration and largely determines the complex asymmetric relations between the two languages. The presented habilitation work is innovative and contributing to both Bulgarian and Bohemian studies, as well as to typological linguistics in general.

#### 1.2.2. Other research publications

The other monograph with a title "The Bulgarian resultative and the Czech language or on the modern Bulgarian morphological resultative and its functional equivalents in the modern Czech language" was defended as a dissertation in 2014. na. The author examines the linguistic asymmetry between the present-day Bulgarian and the present-day Czech language with respect to the Bulgarian morphological resultative. The whole work is full of valuable original observations, but without a doubt with a certain contribution is the last part of the second chapter

(dedicated to the functional-semantic field of resultative in the Bulgarian language) as well as almost the entire third chapter, which presents the functional equivalents of the Bulgarian morphological indicative resultative in modern Czech. Issues related to various aspects of Czech-Bulgarian verb equivalence are also addressed in 13 articles published in various scientific journals and collections. (E.g. *On syncretism in the paradigm of the Bulgarian verb and Bulgarian-Czech linguistic asymmetry, parts 1 and 2*; *Reflections of the perfect in the modern Bulgarian language and their functional equivalents in the modern Czech language*; *The Bulgarian resultative future and its Czech functional equivalents.*; *On the Bulgarian relative resultative future and its Bulgarian and Czech functional equivalents*; *On the Bulgarian indicative relative future and its Bulgarian and Czech functional equivalent*; *Temporal relativity with respect to the past in the Bulgarian and Czech languages.*, *The modern Czech active preterit and its functional equivalents in the modern Bulgarian language etc*).

The other thematic circle to which Stoichev's scientific interests are related are the problems of Czech-Bulgarian comparative phraseology. On this topic the author has published one study (Monocolabile Units as Components of Phrase in Bulgarian and Czech) and several articles in Scientific Publications (The Czech phraseologized syntactic constructions *být/mít + po + NLoc* as functional equivalents of the Bulgarian morphological resultativ; Monocolabile words as components of phrases in Bulgarian and Czech languages; Lexical idioms? etc.)

Last but not least, the two Czech language textbooks, preparation of teaching aids in the framework of the international project should be noted: "Language in Tourism: Evaluation of Oral Slavic Languages Competitions in Respect with Tourism Needs, under the Operational Program "Human Resources Development", 2006 - 2008, as well as his participation in two dictionaries: Multilingual Dictionary for Tourism, 2008; Czech-Bulgarian dictionary in two volumes, 2002.

The analysis of the scientific production of Ch. Assistant Stilian Stoychev ranked him among the best contemporary researchers in the Czech language and Czech-Bulgarian verb morphology. His publications are distinguished by their thoroughness, precision, solid theoretical background and scientific competence and contain valuable contributions in several scientific fields - typological and comparative Slavic linguistics, translatology and foreign language training. All the indicated facts unequivocally attest to the elevated scientific and expert capabilities of the candidate. On this evidence, I cast a positive vote on the Ph.D Stiliyan Stoychev, candidacy of the academic position Associate professor " in 2.1. Philology (Slavic languages – Czech language).

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Assoc. Prof. Marinela Mladenova