

## **ATTITUDE OF REVIEWER**

**concerning the academic papers and teaching work  
of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Petrova Yordanova,  
submitted for participation in a competition for the  
academic position “Professor”  
in Professional Field 2.1. Philology  
(Turkic and Altaic Studies; General and Comparative Linguistics),  
announced in the State Gazette, issue 88 of 13.10.2020  
for the needs of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”**

**Reviewer: Prof. Dr. Antony Spasov Stoilov**  
South-West University “Neofit Rilski”,  
2.1. Philology

This Attitude of Reviewer has been drawn up on the basis of documents received for a competition announced by Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” (SG, issue 88 of 13.10.2020) and on the website of the University for the needs of the Department of Turkic and Altaic Studies. The documents submitted for the competition are in conformity with the requirements of the Rules on the conditions and procedures for acquiring academic degrees and occupying academic positions at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” and comply with the relevant regulatory framework (the Higher Education Act, the Act on Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for the organisation and activity of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, etc.). The review of the documents for the individual stages of the competition preceding the selection shows that the procedure has been followed correctly and no violations have been found. The academic production presented for review by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova meets the profile of the announced competition.

## **1. Overview of the submitted documents**

Documents for participation in the competition have been submitted only by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova (long-standing lecturer at the Department of Turkic and Altaic Studies at the Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”), who is the only candidate in the “Professor” election procedure in Professional Field 2.1. Philology (Turkic and Altaic Studies; General and Comparative Linguistics).

To participate in the procedure, the candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova has submitted a list of a total of 15 titles, including 10 publications in scientific journals (including publications referenced and indexed in world-renowned science information databases) and scientific forum collections, 3 monographs (one habilitation thesis and two other books), 1 dictionary (as co-author), and 1 textbook. As regards the documentary aspect of the selection procedure for the academic rank “Professor”, I can confidently declare that the submitted evidence meets the requirements for the proper conduct of this competition. No evidence of plagiarism has been found.

## **2. Candidate information**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova is a prominent specialist in the field of Turkic and Altaic studies, and in the field of general and comparative linguistics. Without going into detail about the candidate’s professional path, I will mention only a few points which I consider important to outline her teaching and research profile. In 2013, she defended a dissertation entitled “Linguodidactic Modelling of the Turkish Case System for Bulgarian Speakers (through the prism of locative and ablative case)” [„Лингводидактическо моделиране на турската падежна система за българи (през призмата на местен и отделителен падеж)“] at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”. Since 2007, she has been employed as a lecturer in the Department of Turkic and Altaic Studies at the Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”. In 2016, she was granted the academic rank “Associate Professor” after defending a habilitation the-

sis entitled “Morphosyntactic aspects of the category of possession in the modern Turkish language” [„Морфосинтактични аспекти на категорията посесивност в съвременния турски език“]. She is regularly engaged in the national and international project, research and teaching activities of Sofia University. She actively participates in the administrative activities of the Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology as course leader of the students majoring in Turkic Studies (2007-present), she has been elected as member of various faculty committees (2011-present), she is a member of the Faculty Council of FCNP (2019-present), she is the head of the Department of Methodology of Foreign Language Teaching (2019-present), etc.

### **3. Overall characteristics of academic production**

The overall characteristics of the candidate’s works reveal the profile of a serious researcher who successfully moves up the requisite steps in her academic development.

The papers submitted for review by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova meet the requirements for academic publications. They are important for the development of the Turkic and the Altaic school in Bulgaria, with her habilitation work an undoubted contribution to both general and comparative linguistics, as well as to the problematics of modern Turkic and Altaic studies. They examine analytically in a multifaceted way problems in the field of theoretical and applied grammar, lexicology and lexicography, with the comparison in some publications coming from the close study of Turkish and Bulgarian, drawing parallels with other Turkic and Indo-European languages.

### **4. Characteristics and evaluation of the teaching activity of the candidate**

The critical analysis of the teaching and educational work of the competition candidate showed clearly the stages in her professional development and provided evidence of her serious preparation and high achievements in her teaching work. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova approaches the educational process with

marked responsibility, constantly trying to update the curriculum and to present new benchmark achievements in the theory and practice of modern Turkic and Altaic studies and general and comparative linguistics. The candidate has the necessary potential to hold the academic rank “Professor”, as she skilfully communicates with her students and manages to present convincingly complex theoretical developments before the authoritative opinion of her academic colleagues. The submitted publications illustrate clearly her contributions to the development of the Bulgarian school in the field of Turkic and Altaic studies through the prism of general and comparative linguistics.

### **5. Academic and applied academic contributions of the candidate**

The academic and applied academic contributions of the candidate are indisputable. They can be summarised as a significant contribution to the enrichment of the existing knowledge in the field of Turkic and Altaic studies, general and applied linguistics. Sufficient arguments have been provided to support the author’s position regarding the current state of the lexico-grammatical class “adjective” in the system of the modern Turkish language through the prism of the Bulgarian language.

### **6. Comments and recommendations**

I have no special critical remarks concerning the research papers of the candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova submitted for participation in this competition.

### **CONCLUSION**

Having acquainted myself with the materials and the academic works presented for the competition and having analysed their significance and the academic and applied academic contributions contained therein, I hereby give my **positive** assessment and recommend to the Academic Jury to propose to the Academic

Council at the Faculty of Classical and New Philologies at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” to grant Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova the academic rank “Professor” in Professional Field **2.1. Philology (Turkic and Altaic Studies; General and Comparative Linguistics)**.

04.01.2021

Reviewer:

Prof. Dr. Antony Stoilov