

ATTITUDE OF REVIEWER

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Regarding: Competition for the academic position “Professor” in Professional Field 2.1. Philology (Turkic Studies; General and Comparative Linguistics) for the needs of the Faculty of Classical and new Philologies (FCNP), Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”. The Competition was announced in the State Gazette issue 88/13.10.2020, p. 73.

Candidate: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Petrova Yordanova

I present this Attitude of Reviewer as an external member of the Academic Jury set up with Order No. ПД – 38 – 540/18.11.20101 of the Rector of SU “St. Kliment Ohridski”.

1. Grounds for the assessment and general characteristics of the publications and professional work submitted for consideration for this procedure

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova is the only candidate in the Competition for the academic position of “Professor” in Turkic Studies. She has presented a Report on the minimum academic requirements according to the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and all other documents and materials required by said Act. The documents are competently assembled and presented.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova is participating in the Competition with a habilitation thesis – the monograph “Morphosyntax of the adjective in the Turkish language” [„Морфосинтаксис на прилагателното име в турския език“], 272 pp., three articles in refereed and indexed scientific journals, two of which in co-authorship, six articles in non-refereed scientific journals, one of them in co-authorship, and the textbook Język turecki. Minimum gramatyczne. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Akademickie Dialog, 260 p.

We would like to point out that we express our opinion on these publications, since they are in temporally situated after the first habilitation of the candidate in 2016, a condition that the above Act stipulates.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova is the head of the Department of Methodology of Foreign Language Teaching, a member of the Faculty Council of FCNP and a member of the Project committee at the same faculty (since 2019, including at the time of the competition).

2. Meeting the requirements for holding the academic position

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova is reading four lecture courses for the Bachelor degree in the specialty Turkic Studies. She has been the academic supervisor of two doctors and is supervising two doctoral students. She has also supervised two master’s theses.

The candidate in the Competition for Professor is the head of two research projects. All this is temporally located after the first habilitation of the candidate in the Competition and is therefore relevant as her academic asset according to the Act.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova has participated in the organisation of four academic forums and has presented academic theses in nine international and national academic forums.

The candidate's assets include the compilation of two collected volumes, the editing of one and membership on two editorial boards of periodicals.

Her citations are 14 for the period after her first habilitation until the moment of the Competition judged by us. The reference for the citations has been selected in accordance with the requirements of the applicable Act.

3. Area of academic interests and assessment of contributions

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova is an established researcher on scientific issues in the field of the morphosyntax of the Turkish language, at the same time ensuring an aspect of comparison with the Bulgarian language, naturally. The candidate's search is a serious and difficult scientific task, given the complex linguistic heterogeneity – as language families, as a language structure and system, and why not as intercultural communication in general (the candidate has valences in her scientific research in such an aspect as well, which is inevitable considering her teaching activity).

Milena Yordanova carries a commendable bibliographic culture in the scientific issues treated in her works and discipline of scientific research. Her habilitation work "Morphosyntax of the adjective in the Turkish language" presents a professor-worthy effort to position this part of speech with its specific categorical characteristics not merely within the specifics of synchronous grammaticalisation, but also against the background of translation studies and megacommunication in general. In addition, the work has a very definite applied part, in which it is the essence of the author to connect the theoretical and applied projections so as to refer her claim as a scientist. Yordanova diligently presents the synchronous grammatical reference of the adjective in the Turkish language along the difficult path of comparativism and through the delicate reference to diachrony, when necessary. This complex methodological profile of the research is proof of Yordanova's qualities both as a researcher and as a university lecturer.

We recommend in her future research Milena Yordanova to refine the relational and morphosyntactic plan as a validating projectiveness of the grammaticalisations of the adjective in order to complete the paradigms of connecting the adjective with the noun and its syntactic valences and positions in general.

Milena Yordanova's articles also prove her consistent scientific interests in the issues of the Competition in which she is a candidate, and which therefore, of course, are an integral part of her serious research expertise. Here we should gladly add her didactic and translation expertise as part of the topics of some of the articles which Yordanova annotates as a university lecturer with a quality educational passport. Thus, naturally, her success as a textbook author is presented, which, importantly, is the result of project activity.

4. Assessment of the candidate's teaching activity

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova is an authoritative lecturer according to her research profile and her participation in the Competition for Professor offers a promising academic investment in the training in the specialty Turkic Studies at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski". This is evidenced both by the lecture courses she leads and by her management of master's and doctoral

theses. That is to say, Milena Yordanova is a lecturer on all three levels of higher education – bachelor, master and the educational and academic degree “Doctor”.

Her authorship of a textbook also explicates her legitimate request to be made a Professor.

5. Conclusion

In view of my opinion on her research achievements and teaching success, as well as on the administrative competences she exercises, and in accordance with the submitted documents and materials for the Competition in accordance with the provisions of the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria I hereby declare that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Yordanova meets the requirements for holding the academic position “Professor” in the scientific specialty 2.1. Philology (Turkic Studies; General and Comparative Linguistics) for the needs of FCNP at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, and will therefore vote “in favour”.

29.01.2021

Prof. Mariana Georgieva, PhD