

SU “St. Kliment Ohridski”  
Fakulty of Theology  
Department of Historical Theology

OPINION

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lyudmil Martinov Malev  
member of the scientific jury, according to the Order RD 38-424/15.07.2022.

of the dissertacion on:

**“The Gracious Creativity of Man in Time according to Father Georgi  
Florovsky”**

Author.

for the award of the scientific and educational degree “Doktor”

by field of higher education 2. Humanities, professional field 2.4. scientific  
speciality Religion and Theology (General History of the Church)

Sofia

2022

## **Doctoral Data**

Doctoral Student Rusina Torossian has acquired degree of Master of Divinity at the Faculty of Theology at “St. Kliment Ohridski”. She is enrolled as an independent doctoral student at the Faculty of Theology of the University of Sofia “St. Kliment Ohridski” in 2020 by Order RD 20-1446/21.09.2020, modified by Order RD 20-2040/26.11.2020. All the preparation, including the writing of the dissertation, was carried out the Department of Historical Theologi at the Sofia University. Its scientific supervisor is Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pavel Pavlov.

Her theological education, as well as opportunity to work on the archive of Father Georgi Florovski at Princeton University in New Jersey, are important prerequisites for the positive and result.

She was expelled by a rector`s order on the basis of the law and a regulations, as well as a decision of Faculty of Theology.

In my opinion, Rusina Torossian meets the requirements and fulfils criteria of the HRAADB and its Implementing Rules.

The foregoing gives me a reason to assume that all the rules of procedure have been complied whit and that no irregularities have been committed.

The first meeting of the scientific jury approved by the Order 38-424/15.07.2022. of the Rector of the Sofia University and according to the resolution of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Theology (prot. 11/30.06.2022) was held on 22.07.2022. and is reflected in the minutes attached to the Documents.

## **Dissertation Data**

Rusina Torossian`s proposed dissertation is 220 pages in length and is organized structurally into the following parts: the Preface, the Introduction, Chapter One – The Time of Grace, Chapter Two – The Seal of Love, Chapter Three - Wisdom and Creativity, Chapter Four – The New Creation, the Conclusion, the Appendices, the Declaration of the Authenticity, and the References. Each of the chapters is composed of parts, avoiding excessive division.

In the Preface, the author motivates her choice to pursue Ph.D. and shares the reason she chose and formulated the topic to be developed in light of the church historical aspect.

The introduction contains the more important attributes characteristic of this part. Object and subject formulated with the precision. The aims and objectives which the author sets out to achieve outlined. The methodology is stated. It stands out which complexity and comprehensiveness. The limits of the research is outlined. The names of Bulgarian scientists who have devoted part of their work to the problems outlined in the dissertation are mentioned.

The content of the individual chapters corresponds to their wording. Particularly impressive is the section listing the sources and literature used. An impressive number of titles in different languages are indicated, which testifies to thorough interest and diligent work.

The interested annexes are strictly tailored to the topic and help to illustrate it.

The abstract presented by Risina Torossian meets requirements and allows for a clear and accurate introduction in a synthesized form to the text of the dissertation.

The dissertation's publications are sufficient in number and depth have been printed in a specialized scientific journal.

### **Scientific contributions**

The dissertation has a distinctly contributory character. The doctoral candidate has highlighted his contributions and I accept them as valid.

### **Remarks**

Along with the undeniable merits of this work, there are, on my opinion, some weaknesses:

1. The review of historiography should give not only information on authors but also titles. Probably due to modesty on the part of the dissertation author and his supervisor, the significant place of Assoc. Prof. Pavel Pavlov among the researchers of the topic.

2. It would be better to achieve a better balance between the volume of the individual chapters.

## **Conclusion**

I declare that in no way fall under the assumptions of the law and other regulations concerning conflict of interest!

The qualities of the present dissertation give mi full grounds to vote positively “FOR” Rusina Torossian to be awarded the degree of Doctor of Education in the field of higher education 2. Humanities, professional field 2.4, scientific specialty Religion ant Theology.

Veliko Tarnowo

2022