

## STATEMENT

by Prof. Doctor of Philological Science Nikolay Georgiev Papuchiev,  
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Member of a jury as per the competition, announced by Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, in  
S.G., issue 24/28.06.2022 for the **academic position *Associated Professor*** in professional  
discipline **2. 1. Philology (Bulgarian literature – Bulgarian literature from the First World  
War till nowadays. Children's and young adult literature)**

with a single applicant: **Chief Assistant Prof. Dr. Nadezhda Angelova Stoyanova**, full-time  
lecturer at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

### **General evaluation of the candidate's profile:**

Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Nadezhda Angelova Stoyanova is a full-time lecturer at the Faculty of Slavic Philology at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” since 2011. From 2013 until now she holds the academic position of Assistant Professor, after obtaining a doctoral degree in the same year. Her teaching experience is fully related to the scientific disciplines that determine the scope and nomenclature of the competition. The candidate conducts seminars and reads lectures on Children's and young adult literature, Bulgarian Literature between the First and Second World Wars, and Contemporary Bulgarian Literature. Her teaching experience is built up by many elective disciplines as well. All of them reflect general or specific problems of the development of modern Bulgarian literature. Her profile as a researcher is approved by her participation in 38 research projects, as well as by over 90 publications, 2 of which are independent monographic studies. A certificate for her work with the students is the scientific mentorship of 15 bachelor's and master's theses, as well as her position as editor-in-chief of the magazine “Philological Forum”, oriented towards students, doctoral students, and young scientists. She is the winner of a number of academic awards for her contribution to the humanitarian sciences.

### **Scientific contributions:**

In the current competition, Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Nadezhda Stoyanova is applying with 16 publications – 1 monography, 3 studies on Bulgarian literature, and 12 articles on the same field

of study. All of them are close related to the profile of the competition. 7 of the attached publications are in the field of Children's and young adult literature. The works of Geo Milev, Kalina Malina, Binio Ivanov and Nikolay Kanchev are originally analyzed not only in point of view of their contextual place, but also through their inclusion from the historiographical constructed past of literature for children and youth. These are especially important readings, as far as their contributory character is revealed not only in the fact that they enrich with new literary readings the literary field, but rather in the efforts to maintain them as current artifacts in the attention of the analysts. This literature – insists Nadezhda Stoyanova in her analysis of Binio Ivanov's work – “models the young reader as a subject who interprets the dynamically changing world” (magazine “Stranitsa”, 2022, p. 154). An observation that with some clarifications applies also to Geo Milev's series “Children's Life”, which tries to “stylize the emotional reactivity of the child as a lyrical subject and lyrical hero” (magazine “Bulgarian Language and Literature”, 2022, p. 161). The analytical-research work on children's literature by Nadezhda Stoyanova often refers to the canon-forming mechanisms of literary historiography and reveals those developmental processes that remain aside from the gaze of the totalizing history of Bulgarian literature. Or censorship in the era of totalitarianism. As is the case with Nikolay Kanchev's collections of poems, for example, which are a field for authorial self-expression in a period of his life marked by a prohibition for publishing. Here again, the claims, which are typical for all the research work of the candidate, that this is a serious literature, part of ideological and aesthetic artistic processes – are supported by the conclusion that even in the Kanchev's case it is a question of reflection “to the typology of behavior of the subject and society” (magazine “Philological Forum”, 2023, p. 82).

The main monograph with which Nadezhda Stoyanova participates in this competition is “Ornaments and Grimaces. Fashion and Modernity in Bulgarian Literature from the 20s and 30s of the 20th Century” (Sofia: Paradigma, 2022). The monography is an original study and has not been offered as a work for taking previous academic positions and obtaining scientific degrees. The presentation is structured in 6 chapters and an appendix, the total volume is 374 pages. Fashion is a question that is not only not unimportant to Bulgarian literature, but on the contrary – can be considered as a key component for its understanding and analysis. Fashion for the authors from the interwar period is part of the problem of man and human, for the fear of dehumanization of modern culture, which however enhances “the accelerating-anxious striving for change in appearance” (p. 14). Viewed from this perspective, fashion, fashionable, current is part of a key problem for literature – namely – human thinking about himself in an attempt to express his individual or collective identity. The analysis in the work is carried out on several works, critical

readings, and newspaper publications with a wide readership audience, which fully expresses the contextual and cultural frames of the time in which literary pursuits develop at that time. In this study – like the observations in the articles and studies by Nadezhda Stoyanova – one can notice a well-motivated provocation to the mass methodology of literary historiography. It is expressed in continuous references and references between so-called “high” and “mass” culture. References that reveal extremely important dependencies and send analytical reading also to reader reception. All presented works are contributory and original and are characterized by a completely correct use of the bibliographic sources and quoted literature. There are no data for incorrect use of foreign ideas and texts, moreover – the bibliographic references are extremely detailed and exhaustive.

**Evaluation of the procedural documents presented:**

The documents for the competition are very well prepared and presented to the Scientific Jury. The whole procedure is in accordance with all regulative norms and documents. The report shows that 525 points have been collected from the required 400 in the Minimal scientometric requirements. The 30 citations indicated in the report (out of a total of over 80) form 100 of the required 50 points. The diplomas for obtaining higher education, for the educational and scientific degree doctor, as well as the references for work experience and held an academic position, show that the candidate meets all the conditions for taking the academic position according to the announced competition.

**Conclusion:**

Having in mind the mentioned merits and contributions of the scientific research, teaching, and editorial work of Nadezhda Angelova Stoyanova, I confidently support her candidacy and recommend to the members of the Scientific Jury also to vote positively to take the academic position of associate professor in professional discipline 2. 1. Philology (Bulgarian literature – Bulgarian literature from the First World War till nowadays. Children's and young adult literature).

Sofia

Reviewer:.....

15.06.2023

Nikolay Papuchiev