



О P I N I O N

On the competition for the academic position of *Associate Professor* in Philology 2.1. Bulgarian language, for the needs of the Bulgarian Lexicology and Lexicography Department, according to the announcement in the State Gazette № 36 of 03.05.2019

with candidate: Nadezhda Spassova Kostova, PhD, Chief Assistant at the Bulgarian Lexicology and Lexicography Department of the Institute of Bulgarian Language "Prof. Lubomir Andreychin" at the BAS.

Author of the opinion (member of the Scientific Jury): Prof. Maria Georgieva Choroleeva, Doctor of Philology

Chief Assistant Nadezhda Spassova Kostova, PhD, started her scientific development as a PhD student in the Bulgarian Lexicology and Lexicography Department at the Institute of Bulgarian Language at BAS. From the very beginning, her interests have been focused on the verb issues, which is distinguished by the highest difficulty. She successfully defended her dissertation for a doctorate degree in the subject of "*Basic verbs of movement in the Bulgarian language*", and then, already being a Chief Assistant, she continued to establish herself as a very good specialist in the field of lexicology and lexicography.

The candidate has submitted a considerable number of scientific researches for her participation in the competition: 34 publications, of which 1 monograph, 4 studies (one of them abroad), 27 articles (1 article in a reported publication and 6 articles abroad), 2 dictionaries and 1 bibliography (in co-authorship), 1 review. She has participated with reports in 12 national and international conferences (9 international and 3 national ones with international participation). The citation list of her publications includes 23

references (2 in reported and 6 in foreign publications), which indicates the value of her research.

The above clearly demonstrates that the quantitative indicators of the requirements of IBL and BAS, as well as the scientific metric indicators for occupying the academic position of *Associate Professor*, have been met.

Chief Assistant Nadezhda Kostova, PhD is a very well-trained, capable and promising scientist, which she has proven with her long, successful, high-quality scientific activity at the Bulgarian Lexicology and Lexicography Department for more than 15 years. She has significant involvement in many scientific, applied and educational projects, as well as pedagogical activities. She has participated in 12 projects (3 national, 4 international, being the project leader of one). For three academic years, she has lectured on lexicology to foreign students in the specialty of "Journalism and Mass Communication" at the Faculty of Journalism at Sofia University. She has also participated in the "Written Remains" campaign to support Bulgarian language training and to promote the activities of the Institute of Bulgarian Language.

N. Kostova's scientific research is in the field of lexicology and lexicography. In particular, her attention is focused mainly on verb issues. Her numerous publications on this subject make a significant contribution to solving a number of problems in the field of the Bulgarian verb system. Her academic degree qualification research work on "*Verbal neologisms in the Bulgarian language*" (Sofia: Avant-garde, 2018) is the first comprehensive study of the neologic verbal vocabulary from the end of the XX and the beginning of the XXI century. She defines two types of verb neologisms: lexical neologisms (new verbs) and semantic neologisms or neosemantisms (new meanings of familiar verbs). The processes of verb neologisms occurrence, as well as their systematic relations in their integration into the language system are studied. An original method is used to describe metaphorical verb meanings. Models of metaphorical and metonymic transmission in neosemantisms have been established.

Particularly valuable is the analysis of the semantic relationships between the meanings of new verbs and new meanings of familiar verbs in a number of studies, finding that the two types of neologisms with the same

semantics compete and are used in parallel in the computer sphere, as well as the classification of verb neologisms according to their field of use. The conclusions about the semantic and word-forming relationships between verb neologisms and their respective nominal neologisms, namely the motivation of a large part of verb neologisms by nominal neologisms, are also impressive. The lexicographic representation of these neologisms is also examined, outlining the principles for selecting the appropriate type of definitions.

The candidate's achievements in the field of lexicography should also be noted. She has had a significant participation in the largest project of UBLL and IBL – 812 pages of volumes 14 and 15 of the multi-volume Dictionary of Bulgarian Language. The polysemantic words with complex semantic structure such as *път, пясък, реч, решавам*, about 300 verbs with the prefix *раз- /raz-/,* such as *разговарям, разгорявам, разделям, разказвам, разливам*, etc. they can in fact be considered as semantic studies, worked-out with expertise, sound background and ability to represent the semantics of words.

Unfortunately, I cannot pay more attention to her participation in the Bulgarian-Slovak Dictionary, in projects in computer lexicography, in the expansion of the Bulgarian National Electronic Corpus, etc., but I believe that all of the above characterizes N. Kostova as an already established capable scientist, with many contributory studies in lexicology and lexicography.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that the scientific creative work submitted for the competition and the overall scientific activity of N. Kostova fully comply with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules on the terms and conditions for the occupation of the academic position of Associate Professor at BAS and at IBL “Prof. Lubomir Andreychin”. That is why, I am certain in proposing to the Honourable Scientific Jury N. Kostova to be qualified as an *Associate Professor* at the Bulgarian Lexicology and Lexicography Department at the Institute of Bulgarian Language at BAS.

14.08.2019

Opinion drafted by:

/ Prof. Maria Choroleeva, Doctor /