

REVIEW

Regarding the competition for the academic position of Associate Professor, promulgated in the State Gazette No. 49 of 06.06.2023 for a period of two months, in a professional direction 2.1. Philology, scientific specialty "Bulgarian Language", for the needs of the Section for Bulgarian Terminology and Terminography at the Institute of Bulgarian Language "Prof. Lyubomir Andrejchin" - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

With only one Candidate: Kristiyana Simeonova Simeonova, PhD
Chief Assistant in the Terminology and Terminography Section at the Institute of Bulgarian Language "Prof. Lyubomir Andrejchin" - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

By Reviewer: Pavlina Grigorova Kancheva, PhD,
Associate professor in the Medical University – Sofia,
Department of Language Education and Sports,
Bulgarian Language Section.
Member of the Scientific Jury based on the Decision of the Scientific Council of the Institute at the Institute of Bulgarian Language "Prof. Lyubomir Andrejchin" - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences / Protocol No. 14 of 13.07.2023.

1.0 General characteristics of the scientific, scientific-applied and pedagogical activity of the candidate.

Kristiyana Simeonova Simeonova graduated from the National High School for Ancient Languages and Cultures "Konstantin-Kyryl the Philosopher" in Sofia. She received her higher education with a master's degree in philology at the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". As a result of free doctoral studies at the Institute of Bulgarian Language "Prof. L. Andrejchin" - BAS defended a doctoral dissertation on the topic "Linguistic characteristics of modern Bulgarian political terminology" and obtained the educational and scientific degree of *PhD*.

Kristiyana Simeonova works at the Institute of Bulgarian Language "Prof. L. Andrejchin" at the BAS since June, 1998 in the Section of Bulgarian Dialectology and Linguistic Geography (until March, 2004) and since then - in the Section of Terminology and Terminography. The official note from IBL certifies that as of 01.07.2023, she has 28 years of scientific work experience at the Institute, of which 6 years as Chief Assistant. From her autobiography (European format) it is understood that Simeonova was a researcher in the Section of Bulgarian Dialectology and Linguistic Geography and worked on collecting material for "Bulgarian Dialect Dictionary" and completing the dialect archive. In the Terminology and Terminography Section, her activities are related to research activities in the field of theoretical and applied terminology, participation and management of theoretical projects, participation in the development of the multi-volume series "Dictionary of Basic Terms", giving consultations and providing expert information on terminological issues of citizens, companies, organizations, institutions, etc., as well as implementation of section management. The list of all Simeonova's publications contains a total of 104 scientific works, of which 6 monographs (3 of them co-authored), 71 articles and 27 reviews and popular science publications.

2.0 General description of the presented materials.

To participate in the competition, Kristiyana Simeonova submitted a list of 3 monographs and 31 articles.

2.1. As a *habilitation thesis*, the monograph "To the Issue of Variability in Terminology" was presented, Sofia, 2023, BAS Publishing House "Prof. Marin Drinov". The work is in a volume of 150 pages with a clear structure in 8 parts. The first part "Introduction" is dedicated to the topic, goals and tasks of the research. The usual concepts of "object" and "subject" of research, as well as a possible definition of the object, are not introduced here. The work would benefit if, at this stage, the variation in terminology was presented as a scientific object. The author presents it as a topic, as an important and current question in modern linguistics, to which scientists pay attention, but its complete study is not yet available, as well as its unequivocal assessment as a favorable or undesirable phenomenon. Simeonova gives a request for the study of terminological variability as a positive fact (p. 11). The main goal of the study is the overall outline and complete analysis of the phenomenon of variation in terminology (p. 12). To achieve the goal, Simeonova identifies a number of tasks (6 in number), the implementation of which is related to practical applications. The researcher claims a synchronous approach and application of analytical, taxonomic, comparative, cognitive methods. The research material is presented in differentiated lexical layers: narrowly specialized terms, general scientific terms, professional vocabulary, spoken vocabulary, names, phraseology. In the *Second part*, Simeonova makes terminological clarifications of the metaterms "term", "term element", "terminological vocabulary" and "terminology" and states the conceptual scope of their use in the work. Thus, she points out that in her study she only includes terms that are units of natural language, not symbols, artificial signs, or parts of artificial language. Here the author presents her understanding of variation: as a universal property of all natural languages, embedded in the essence of the language system in all manifestations of the national language and at all linguistic levels; as a condition for the gradual and continuous evolution of the language while preserving its integrity. Simeonova transfers these understandings, philosophical in nature, to the terminological subsystem of the national language and points to terminological variation as part of linguistic variation (with 22). Along the line of kinship with linguistic variation, she considers the causes of terminological variation as intra-linguistic and extra-linguistic. The kinship of linguistic variation and terminological variation is a basis for easy and sometimes imprecise analogies (the note is mine - P.K.). The author takes this into account by pointing out that the variation in the terminology, compared to the variation in the commonly used language, has some features characteristic only for it, such as the fact that all the variants of the linguistic form of the term express the same concept (p. 24).

In a comparative plan with the advocated ideas about variantness, Simeonova examines the terms "synonymy" and "doubletness", reflecting the differences and even contradictions of individual authors in their attempts to explain the nature of these complex phenomena from all their aspects. A positive side of the work is that the author clearly expresses her opinion about the relationship between these three concepts, pointing out that the term "variantness" is the widest in volume and scope. The terms "synonymy" and "doubletness" represent species concepts in relation to "variantness" (p.31).

In the Third part, Christiyana Simeonova examines the question of the classification of terminological variability. After a brief review of the models proposed by some mainly Russian authors on the matter, Simeonova reasonably chooses for application in her work the classification

of the Bulgarian researcher Maria Popova, based on the interaction and the ratio between the two sides of the linguistic sign, resp. of the terminological sign, and stops at a classification with two main divisions – semantic variation and formal variation in terms. This is the essential part of the work, in which Simeonova, presenting the relevant classification subdivisions, includes a large volume of information about their discussion nature, presented through the theses of a large number of researchers, supported by numerous examples from the terminologies of various sciences and the common language. Manifestations of semantic variation in terms such as polysemy, metaphor, metonymy, homonymy are examined in a multifaceted and in-depth manner; the more recent terminological concepts of eurysemia and ambisemia are also commented on. The same positive assessment can be given to the examination of formal variation, presented according to the language level at which it occurs and according to the system - as intra-systemic formal variation and extra-systemic formal variation.

In this context, saturated with the ideas of leading scientists and meaningful analyzes of interesting examples from the empirical material, Simeonova clearly presents her views. I have objections to some of them. So e.g. the author explains the ambiguity with the continuous emergence of new and new scientific denotations, on the one hand, and the impossibility of creating an infinite number of terms, on the other hand, due to the danger that "...the terminological apparatus will swell and increase its volume to the extent, which will make its use in scientific communication extremely difficult and even impossible..." and in connection with this, according to her, "...similar denotations based on similar signs and qualities between them can be named with the same term" (p. 38) . Questioning the possibility of tolerating (especially in the natural sciences) the naming with the same term of different denotations, although with similar signs, I would like to add that a way out of the formulated problem was found a long time ago in a number of biological and medico-biological private sciences through creation of nomenclatures to name the large number of subject (denotative) concepts with which they handle. Examples of this are nomenclature in biology, anatomy, microbiology, parasitology, botany, etc. However, Simenova makes the true statement that ambiguity is a real fact in terminological practice, which specialists from individual scientific fields together with terminologists must limit. Another correct, clearly expressed position regarding polysemousness is that when a term appears with a different meaning in another science, we speak of homonymy (p.42).

In the next, *Fourth part*, Christiana Simeonova presents the variation in the names as above all formal and manifesting at the word formation and syntactic level. It is positive that the author examines it in the study, because in general practice there are cases of naming one object in two or more ways, which can lead to ambiguities and confusions. The *Fifth part* is devoted to some problems in the lexicographic presentation of terminological variability. Simeonova outlines 4 groups of difficulties: when reflecting ambiguity and homonymy; when reflecting the synonymous terms; in cases of word-formative variation, when determining the grammatical gender of some words. This part increases the applied value of the research, as it represents the sharing of experience in creating lexicographic works, and also sharpens the attention of term users to the discussion terms.

In the *Conclusion*, Simeonova confirms her opinion, stated in the Introduction of the monograph, that the variation in terminology is a positive fact and richness of the scientific language. This opinion is formed probably by analogy with the variation in common language. Without disputing what Simeonova wrote, I would recommend moderation and restraint in praising the

variability in terminology and, above all, a differentiated attitude to the scientific term as a cognitive unit in scientific knowledge and as an instrumental unit (tool) in scientific discourse. In the first case, its variability can be a useful fact, because each terminological variant contains a particle of knowledge about the scientific object, in the second case, however, its variability is a harmful fact, because it can lead to obstacles and misunderstandings in scientific communication.

2.2. The monograph "Linguistic Characteristics of Modern Bulgarian Political Terminology" presents a defended dissertation work in 2016 and reviewed at the BAS, IBL "Prof Lyubomir Andrejchin" by Prof. Dr. Sia Kolkovska and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dimitrina Lesnevska and published in 2022 by "Propylen" publishing house, Sofia, 335 pages.

2.3. "Terminological Encyclopedic Dictionary of Economic Sciences", published in 2020 by "Skala Print" publishing house (476 pages), of which Kristiyana Simeonova is a co-author, is included in the list of publications for participation in the competition as a published monograph in Bulgarian, which is not presented as a habilitation thesis. Reviewers of the dictionary are Assoc. Prof. Dr. Katya Charalozova (BAS) and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pavlina Kancheva (MU – Sofia).

2.4. The articles (31 in number, written in Bulgarian or in Russian), included in the list for participation in the competition, present Kristiyana Simeonova as a linguist with diverse interests in the field of lexicology, terminology and terminography.

Some of the articles are devoted to problems of Bulgarian lexicology and lexicography with a focus on terms and terminology: the author presents her observations on the use of some participial forms as term elements in terminology; draws attention to some inaccuracies in the presentation of scientific terms in textbooks and outlines the related types of problems; clarifies the specific features of the lexicographic presentation of the terms in the Terminological Dictionary and the applied methods and innovative solutions of its authors; the author dwells on the fluctuations in the form of some terms and the manifestations of formal variation in terms and term elements in different terminological systems, as well as manifestations of the phenomena of polysemy and homonymy in terms; reveals some interesting cases of metaphor use in terminological phrases; discusses the issue of homonymy in terminology; focuses on issues of determinologisation and reterminologisation as factors of external systematicity in terminology.

Another group of articles refers to the comparative terminological studies between the Bulgarian and Russian languages, in which the author enters with in-depth knowledge and discusses a wide range of issues. Simeonova examines the Bulgarian-Russian terminological parallels in the formation of the linguistic form of the terms through the three term-forming ways and some productive term-forming models; focuses on the formal structure of terms-word combinations in both Slavic languages; discusses the national and international in them with a view to the socio-political lexicon in the context of globalization, presents some common phraseological combinations in the modern Bulgarian and Russian languages and some political metaphors used in the political discourse of both languages; examines the specificity of the phenomenon of homonymy in modern Bulgarian and Russian terminology; discusses the issue of universalization in both languages; outlines the trends, similarities and patterns of contemporary Bulgarian and Russian political discourse, etc.

A third group of articles are thematically related to the past and current state of the terminology, as well as to the personality of scientists and the importance of scientific works and

events for its construction and development. Simeonova presents very significant data related to the personalities of Academician Alexander Teodorov-Balan and Prof. Ilya Fyodorovich Shapshal, some of which have not been discussed so far in linguistic circles, in the article "On some interesting facts from the creation of Bulgarian scientific terminology after the Liberation". Other articles are dedicated to: Samuil Borisovich Bershchein and his "Textbook of the Bulgarian Language"; the scientific contribution of some founders of Poznań Slavic studies; the Bulgarian work "Terminological encyclopedic dictionary of economic sciences", Bulgarian studies in modern Russia, etc.

3.0. Participation in scientific projects. Kr. Simeonova takes part in national projects of the BAS.

3.1. She participated as the head of two BAS projects:

3.1.1. Project "Theory of Terminology" - a collective project of budget funding with a term of 1.01.2019-31.12.2021, referring to the direction of IBE "Theoretical Linguistic Research. Successfully completed and reported on 15.12.2022.

3.1.2. Project "Theoretical issues of terminology (with a view to their application in terminological practice)" new project with a term of 2023 - 2025.

3.2. Kristiyana Simeonova is involved as a participant in a BAS project: "Terminological practice", sub-project "Dictionary of the main terms in Bulgarian science", item V. Economics. This is a collective project of budget funding, which ended with the publication of "Terminological encyclopedic dictionary of economic sciences", ed. "Skala Print", Sofia, 2020.

4.0. Basic scientific and scientific-applied contributions.

4.1. Contributions in the field of terminology:

4.1.1. Kristiana Simeonova presents for the first time a comprehensive study, dedicated to the phenomenon of terminological variability. The author makes a detailed analysis of the variability in terminology, reflects on the reasons that give rise to it, on the ways in which it manifests itself, on its types and on the controversial question of whether this phenomenon is necessary and how it will develop in the future. A comprehensive description of terminological variation gives a clearer, more accurate and more complete picture of the dynamics of linguistic processes in scientific discourse and is useful both in the theory of terminology and in the study of a number of particular problems in terminology. The works presented in the competition list with this contribution are: monograph №1, articles №17, №18 and №19.

4.1.2. For the first time, the modern picture of Bulgarian political terminology has been comprehensively outlined and its current state and functioning as a lexical subsystem of the Bulgarian literary language has been fully and thoroughly presented. The work is significant both for the theory and methodology of terminological studies, and for raising the level of language culture in the Bulgarian political discourse. The works presented in the list for participation in the competition with this contribution are: monograph №2, articles №19, №20.

4.2. Contributions in the field of terminology: Kr. Simeonova is one of the authors and a participant in the scientific project "Dictionary of the main terms" - a multi-volume series of

dictionaries with an interpretive encyclopedic character, intended for the widest circles of society. The works presented in the list for participation in the competition with this contribution are: monograph No. 3, articles No. 6, No. 27, No. 28.

4.3. Contributions in the field of comparative linguistics: Kr. Simeonova studies in comparative terms a number of phenomena in the Bulgarian and Russian languages - both in the commonly spoken standard and in the scientific terminology of both languages. Her observations and conclusions in this direction are of practical application for the needs of bilingual lexicography and scientific translation. The works presented in the list for participation in the competition with this contribution are: articles: №1, №2, №3, №4, №7, №8, №10, №13, №14, №19, №20, №22, №24, №25.

5.0. Reflection of the candidate's scientific publications in our and foreign literature (according to the candidate's data).

Kr. Simeonova presented 2 cases of citation of her works abroad and 20 cases - in Bulgaria. In the last 5 years, she has participated in a total of 22 scientific conferences - two of them in Hungary (Budapest and Szeged), one in Poland (Lodz) and the rest in Bulgaria.

6.0. Scientometric indicators.

Regarding the minimum requirements of IBE "Prof. L. Andreychin" - BAS to the scientific and teaching activities of candidates for the academic position of "associate professor" in professional direction 2.1. Philology, scientific specialty "Bulgarian language", I point out that Kristiyana Simeonova fulfills these requirements, and by indicators "D", "D" and "E" she exceeds them.

7.0. Summary and Critical Notes.

7.1. Kristiyana Simeonova participated in the competition with a complete set of documents in accordance with APPENDIX No. 4 to the Regulations for the conditions and procedures for acquiring scientific degrees and for holding academic positions at the Institute of the Bulgarian Language "Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin" – BAS. There is no evidence of procedural violations in accordance with the requirements of Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for its implementation, the Regulations for the terms and conditions for acquisition of scientific degrees and for occupying academic positions in the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and of the Regulations on the conditions and procedure for acquiring scientific degrees and for occupying academic positions at the Institute of Bulgarian Language "Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin".

7.2. Kristiyana Simeonova fulfills the requirements for the type, genre and number of scientific works presented in the competition. Comparable to the State Scientometric Indicators, she fulfills the minimum requirements of IBL "Prof. L. Andreychin" - BAS for occupying the academic position of "associate professor", and according to indicators "D", "D" and "E" she exceeds them.

7.3. Regarding the subject of the works - they refer to lexicology, terminology, terminology and comparative linguistics, touching on basic linguistic topics and problems, examined competently and in depth with attention and striving to clarify details and illustrate the theoretical positions

through a rich and interesting empirical material. The papers have the contribution and applied meanings mentioned above in the review.

7.4. The bibliography of works mainly covers Bulgarian and Russian scientific publications of contemporary leading scientists. Citations are made accurately and in good faith. When familiarizing myself with Simeonova's scientific works, I did not find any facts of plagiarism.

7.5. The habilitation work is thematically focused on a basic discussion problem in terminology (variability in terminology), which is affected to a lesser or greater extent by almost every researcher, and a large number of Bulgarian and foreign scientists have presented their views on the problem in detail. It is positive that Simeonova, for the first time in Bulgaria, presents a monographic study of this problem, covering and summarizing the multi-faceted, sometimes mutually contradictory opinions of the researchers; chooses an appropriate scientific methodology and goes into the ultimate depth of the problem. Her competent linguistic analyzes and conclusions are richly supported by interesting examples of common language and terminology. Some of Simeonova's ideas arouse objections, mostly in connection with the general assessment of variability in terminology as a positive fact, without taking into account the undesirable effects of its existence. Despite my critical remarks (which I present here and in item 2.1), I am convinced in my opinion that the monograph "Towards the issue of variability in terminology" is worthy of a habilitation thesis.

7.6. Regarding the style and language, it should be noted that Simeonova, with a high linguistic culture, is able to present complex linguistic phenomena in a clear and accessible way, which is a positive fact. However, in places, guided by her convictions, she allows a pathos of the statement, unsuitable for scientific research.

Based on everything stated above, and despite my critical remarks, I express my firm conviction that the candidate Kristiyana Simeonova Simeonova possesses the necessary qualities to occupy the academic position of Associate Professor in professional direction 2.1. Philology, scientific specialty "Bulgarian Language", for the needs of the Section for Bulgarian Terminology and Terminography at the Institute of Bulgarian Language "Prof. Lyubomir Andrejchin" - BAS, and as a member of the Scientific Jury I vote affirmatively with "YES" for her appointment to the competitive position.

Date: 24/09/2023

REVIEWER:

Assoc. Prof. Pavlina Kancheva, PhD