

OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Nadezhda Iv. Mihaylova-Stalyanova,

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(academic title, first name, middle name, last name – academic position at the university or research institution)

regarding the materials submitted for participation in the competition

for the academic position of "associate professor"

in field of higher education 2. Humanities,

professional field 2.1. Philology (Bulgarian language)

In the competition for "associate professor," announced in the State Gazette, Issue No. 33 of April 3, 2026, for the needs of the Section for the History of the Bulgarian Language at the Institute of Bulgarian Language of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Dr. Magdalena Abadzhieva is the sole candidate.

1. General overview of the procedure and the candidate(s).

After a detailed review of the materials submitted to me, I have concluded that the documentation is in order, meets the requirements of the Law on Academic Degrees and Titles, and complies with the Regulations on the Conditions and Procedures for Obtaining Academic Degrees and Holding Academic Positions at the Institute of the Bulgarian Language "Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin." The set of materials submitted by the candidate includes all documents required by the procedure.

Dr. Abadzhieva is participating in the competition with publications (one monograph submitted as a habilitation thesis, a second monograph that is not a habilitation thesis, a study, an anthology, and 24 articles), thereby meeting the national minimum requirements under Article 2b of the Law on the Academic Staff of Bulgarian Higher Education Institutions for Scientific Field 2. Humanities. Professional Area 2.1. Philology.

Scientific activity.

M. Abadzhieva pursues her scientific work in several areas: the language and traditions of the Banat Bulgarians, the Bulgarian Catholic literary tradition, and contemporary processes and trends in the Bulgarian language.

The monograph "The Literature of 19th-Century Bulgarian Catholics and Banat Literature", Sofia, 2024, is devoted to the literature of Catholic Bulgarians as a foundational factor in the formation of national identity among Bulgarians who were separated from their homeland following the Chiprovtsi Uprising of 1688. The author's analyses of Banat literature in the context of Catholic literature in the Bulgarian language are particularly valuable, especially the lexical analysis of the Bible translation, which compares the linguistic features of the Banat Bulgarians with those of the Catholic Bulgarians from Southern Bulgaria.

Dr. Abadzhieva is also participating in the competition with a monograph that was not submitted as a habilitation thesis, namely: "The Manuscript Bulgarian-Italian Dictionary by Father Maurizio from 1845," Sofia: Simolini, 2020. This publication is particularly intriguing because, on the one hand, it presents the full text of the earliest surviving Bulgarian-Italian handwritten dictionary from 1845 discovered to date, and on the other hand, it includes a linguistic section analyzing the main orthographic, phonetic, and lexical features of the manuscript.

The competition features 7 articles published in scientific journals that are peer-reviewed and indexed in world-renowned scientific databases, as well as 17 articles published in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific peer review, and 1 study. Their thematic scope aligns with the candidate's research interests - most of them are devoted to the language of the Banat Bulgarians, specifically the literature of the Banat Bulgarians as part of the literature of Bulgarian Catholics, lexical features in the language of the Catholic Bulgarians in Banat compared to the lexicon of Catholic Bulgarians, and contemporary examples of the literature of the Banat Bulgarians. Other publications address contemporary linguistic phenomena – words of foreign origin in youth language, standard language and poetic language, and others. The number of articles exceeds the minimum requirements for the academic position of "associate professor" and unequivocally present the candidate as a thorough scholar with serious scientific research.

The publications submitted for the associate professor competition represent the candidate's original scholarly contributions and demonstrate scientific maturity and unquestionably high professional qualifications. I am convinced that the scientific output in this field meets the requirements for the academic position of "associate professor."

Magdalena Abadzhieva has served as the principal investigator on one national research or educational project and as a team member on 11 projects, which is clear evidence of her organizational skills and her ability to conduct research as part of a team. In the competition, Dr. Abadzhieva presented 17 citations, a fact that attests to the high regard in which her research is held by her peers, as her works are cited by established scholars both in Bulgaria and abroad.

CONCLUSION

Based on the information provided in this opinion and in view of the materials submitted for the competition, which meet the requirements for the academic position of “associate professor” in professional field 2.1. Philology, I find it justified to give my positive assessment and to vote **IN FAVOR** of the selection of Magdalena Abadzhieva for the academic position of “associate professor.”

August 2, 2026

Prepared by:

(signature)

Prof. Dr. Nadezhda I. Mihaylova-Stalyanova

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