

REVIEW

for the works of **Assoc. Prof. Ana Ivanova Kocheva, Ph.D.**, participant in the competition, announced in the *State Gazette*, issue 56 of 23.06.2020, for holding the academic position *professor* in the professional field 2.1. *Philology*, scientific specialty *Bulgarian language*, for the needs of the Section of Bulgarian dialectology and linguistic geography at the Institute of Bulgarian language "Prof. L. Andreychin" at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia.

Reviewer: **Assoc. Prof. Vladislav Vladkov Marinov, Ph.D.**, Department of Modern Bulgarian Language, St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ana Ivanova Kocheva, is the only participant in the announced competition, presenting a large volume of scientific production - **118** titles (3 monographs, 7 participations in collective scientific works, 4 studies, 82 articles and 22 electronic and popular science publications), of which **66** publications are after her habilitation in 2013. Assoc. Prof. A. Kocheva, graduated in Bulgarian Philology, was for three years (from 1992 to 1995) a scholarship holder of the Austrian Ministry of Education and Science at the Institute for Slavic Studies in Salzburg, then a scholarship holder of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (1998, 1999, 2000) and Herti (2004), and her research work is mainly related to the Institute of Bulgarian Language "Prof. L. Andreychin", which is a high certificate for the scientific qualities of Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. Kocheva.

The publications of Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. Kocheva are in the field of *sociolinguistics, dialectology, linguogeography, ethnolinguistics, history of language, comparative linguistics* and *the written-regional norm of the Bulgarian language in the Republic of Northern Macedonia*. This presents the contestant as a highly erudite scientist with excellent linguistic knowledge, which allows her to consider issues related not only to the history of the Bulgarian language, but also to its current state within and outside the state borders of the Republic of Bulgaria.

One of the significant works of Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. Kocheva – *Smeseniyat ezik na vienskite balgari (The Mixed Language of the Viennese Bulgarians)* (N 1 from the list of publications after her habilitation), with which she participated in the competition, presents the peculiarities of the Bulgarian language of the Bulgarians living in Vienna. This "mixed language" is described by a **new methodology**, specially created for the needs of the research, which is one of its contributing moments along with the introduced **new terminology**, such as *phonolexical, morpholexical* and other *interferences, transits, transitations*, etc. In this way, modern Bulgarian field sociolinguistics acquires a current study of language formations existing in the

conditions of active bilingualism, as a result of which there are many features at the phonetic, morphological, syntactic and lexical level. As an innovative individual approach of Assoc. Prof. A. Kocheva, I can note her successful decision to combine sociolinguistic and communicative methodology. Along with this, the author analyzes the main forms of existence of the mixed language of the Viennese Bulgarians, and considers different types of classifications of foreign (German) elements in the language of Bulgarian immigrants. Apart from the manifestations of bilingualism in oral speech, the manifestations of written (mostly school) bilingualism are also analyzed, and the role of institutions and social media for the preservation of the Bulgarian language in Vienna is also presented. The largest place in the book (chapters 3 - 6) is given to the lexical interference in the Bulgarian language of the bilinguals in Vienna. Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. Kocheva examines in detail the nature of transitives (German elements in Bulgarian speech), noting that “their specific appearances and disappearances were not permanent (systemic), but transited (appeared and disappeared) even in speech to the same informant”(p. 48). In addition, the author considers (in Chapter 4) the function of the words signalizers, ie. those speech stimuli that make the informant switch from Bulgarian to German, as well as the role of the initial dialect base of the bilinguals for the phonetic realization of the transitives (Chapter 5). Chapter 6 is dedicated to code switching, which Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. Kocheva divides into “recoding” (switching to a “German track”) and “recoding” (returning to the “Bulgarian track”). Here she distinguishes three large groups: 1. recoding with syntagms (free and phraseologized German combinations) of the type of „Така е, струва „само“ *драйсик ойро* (< *dreißig Euro*)...“; 2. transcoding with whole statements (transcodial statements) of the type of „Казват, че Инга расла *ohne Mutter und Vater bei fremden Leuten* 'Without mother and father to strangers“) who did not pay attention to her.”; 3. transcoding with text (transcoding text) of the type of „Иван? *Ich glaube nicht. Ich zweifle daran. Sie irren sich. Iwan ist unverbesslich* 'I do not believe. I doubt. You are lying. Ivan is incorrigible.)“. In the conclusion of the book Assoc. Prof. A. Kocheva summarizes that today the Bulgarian community in Vienna is mostly bilingual. The Bulgarian language used by the community is close to the Bulgarian literary norm, but can be classified as a “mixed language” with many interferences at all language levels, most of which are lexical transitives. In addition, there is a written Bulgarian norm, which is imposed through local media, supported by Bulgarian non-governmental institutions (school, association, church). It contributes not only to the faster integration of Bulgarians into Austrian society, but also to the preservation of the Bulgarian language in modern socio-political conditions. The monograph ***The Mixed Language of the Viennese Bulgarians*** is a comprehensive study of the Bulgarian language in one of the oldest and most well-organized Bulgarian emigrant communities in Europe. The research of Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. Kocheva has a high scientific value and presents in detail

the current state of the language situation in the Bulgarian community in Vienna, and an additional plus is the rich illustrative material resulting from many years of field work of the author.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. Kocheva's interest in the language of the Bulgarian communities abroad reflects in another 16 articles published at home and abroad, as well as in the map compiled by her (N 6) *The Bulgarian language in a new place in the world* with text. (Sofia. 2016, ISBN 978-954-322-856-0), where in the text the author notes that the characteristics of the Bulgarian language formations used abroad depend on various factors, including the number of emigrants and generations, who use the Bulgarian language in the respective country; if they are recognized by it as a national minority; the role of some supporting institutions (public organizations, Bulgarian schools, church communities, media, etc.). The central role that the Bulgarian language plays in uniting and preserving the nation is noted, even in the conditions of increasing globalization.

Of the 16 articles presented in this field, the following can be noted: *Za udvoyavane na dopalnenieto v ezika na vienskite balgari* (N 29); *Udvoyavaneto (utroyavaneto) na podloga v rechta na vienskite balgari* (N 31); *Osobenosti na balgaro-nemskia smesen ezik v Avstria* (N 34); *Uchenicheskiyat diskurs na detsata ot Balgaro-avstriyskoto uchilishte vav Viena* (N 15) etc. in which various characteristics of the language of the Viennese Bulgarians are considered; *Signalwörter als Zeichen für Transition (Interferenz und Umcodierung) deutscher Elemente in der Sprache bulgarischer Einwanderer in Wien* (N 42 – in German for the words whistleblowers that cause “code switching” in bilinguals); Studies on the language of the Austrian Bulgarians (N 45 - ref. in SCOPUS - analytical presentation of research on the language of Bulgarian emigrants in Austria); several articles in which various interferences have been analyzed, such as *Nemski leksikalni interferenti v smesenia ezik na balgarite vav Viena* (N 37); *Semantikoleksikalni interferenti v smesenia ezik na vienskite balgari* (N 39); *Balgarski (inter)diialektni elementi i nemski interferenti v smesenia ezik na vienskite balgari* (N 40) etc.

No less are the publications of Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. Kocheva in the field of dialectology, linguography and ethnolinguistics. First of all, I would like to note here the participation of Assoc. Prof. Kocheva in the creation and popularization of the *Map of the dialect division of the Bulgarian language* (N 2/5 - Sofia: Published by BAS., 2014, ISBN 978-954-322-763-1) and its interactive version (N 3), available at [https://ibl.bas.bg//bulgarian dialects/](https://ibl.bas.bg//bulgarian%20dialects/) The map updates the classification of the Bulgarian dialects and presents their characteristic features in a synthesized form. On the other hand, the digital map enables a wide range of users (mostly from the young and middle generation) to get acquainted with the dialectal features by hearing authentic dialectal speech. Assoc. Prof. Kocheva also participates in the team that worked on *Atlas Linguarium Europae (ALE), Volume I. 9, 2015 (carte de motivations; commentaires)*.

ISBN 978-606-16-0580-4; *Atlas Linguarium Europae (ALE), Volume I. 9, 2015 (commentaires)*, ISBN 978-606-016-0579-8 (N 4 of the list). The creation of the Atlas is a large-scale project aimed at mapping the dialectal features of all languages of the continent of Europe, covering the seven main language groups - Celtic, Romance, Germanic, Slavic, Baltic, Finno-Ugric, Caucasian, and other individual languages. The participation of Bulgarian scholars in this project is a testimony not only to the authority of the Institute of Bulgarian Language at BAS among the foreign linguistic community, but also shows the continuity in research in the Section of Bulgarian Dialectology and Linguistic Geography and in the Institute in general.

In this field Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. Kocheva has 9 articles, 4 of which have been published abroad - *Über die typologische Charakteristik der Bezeichnungen für 'Schäfer' in der deutschen Sprache (im Vergleich zu Bulgarischen)* (N 18); *Symbolic meanings of phraseological units with the component sheep in European languages*. (N 20); *Nova karta na dialektnata delitba na balgarskia ezik*. (N 23) and *Objectives and Perspectives of Bulgarian Dialectology*. (N 27); a article is referenced in SCOPUS - *On How Naming Is Reflected in Geolinguistics (Based on Material for the Names of чабеве 'Nightingales')* (N 55). Here the problems cover a wide range of issues, which include purely theoretical issues related to comparative linguistics (N18 and N 20), analysis of individual dialectological problems (N 23; N 24, N 25, N 55 and N 56), as well as the presentation of the activity of the Section for Bulgarian Dialectology and Linguistic Geography (N 27).

The review made so far of the scientific work of Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. Kocheva shows that her interests are mainly related to the interference and linguistic phenomena with manifestations in different languages. Therefore, it is quite natural that among the publications of Assoc. Prof. Kocheva there should be comparative studies, among which most of the focus is on phraseology with an animalistic component in the Bulgarian and Slovenian languages, such as *Kontrastnosemantichni ustoychivi sravnenia s animalistichen leksikalen komponent v balgarski i slovenski ezik* (N 21), where the phraseological comparisons in the Bulgarian and Slovenian languages are classified in a new way, emphasizing the comparatives and their role in the formation of the phraseological richness of the two languages; *Narativni ustoychivi sravnenia s animalistichen leksikalen komponent v balgarski i v slovenski ezik* (N 53), which examines phraseological units in Bulgarian and Slovenian with animalistic lexical components, which, although repeated, form two different linguistic pictures of the world - Bulgarian and Slovenian; and in *Ednakvi gradualnosemantichni ustoychivi sravnenia s animalistichen leksikalen komponent v balgarski i slovenski ezik* (N 36) the author comes to the conclusion that in the field of gradual semantic stable comparisons with animalistic lexical "there is a **common phraseological fund** for the two most distant South Slavic languages" (p. 422). The article *Structural Models in the Derivational Formation of Lexemes that Mean Rye in Different European Languages*

(N 47) examines the word-formation models with a "rye" component, which are realized not only in Bulgarian but also in other European languages.

Among the publications of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ana Kocheva, last but not least, those related to the history of the Bulgarian language and the regional written norm in the Republic of Northern Macedonia should be noted. Since I have known the work of Assoc. Prof. Kocheva for a long time, I can say that Assoc. Prof. Kocheva stands out with her consistency in her position on the nature and origin of the so-called „Macedonian language". For three years she has been actively participating in the **Council for Work with Bulgarians Abroad under the Vice President of the Republic of Bulgaria**, as well as among the authors of various opinions: *Stanovishte na Instituta za balgarski ezik i na Instituta za istoricheski izsledvania kam BAN za doktrinata na makedonizma i za ofitsialnia ezik v Republika Makedonia*; *Stanovishte do TsU na BAN vav vrazka s t.nar. „shopski ezik*; *Stanovishte za t.nar. „pomashkia ezik" i opitite za sazdavane na „pomashki etnos" v otgovor na zapitvane na chlenovete i simpatizantite na Druzha „Rodina"*; *Stanovishte za pravitelstvoto za balgarskata ezikovedska pozitsia za t.nar. „makedonski ezik" vav vrazka s Dogovora za dobrosasedstvo i Stanovishte na Instituta za balgarski ezik „Prof. L. Andreychin" pri BAN po povod Hartata na MANU za t.nar. „makedonski ezik".*

This activity presents Assoc. Prof. A. Kocheva as a person with an active civil position, through which she defends the interests of the Republic of Bulgaria not only in Bulgaria but also abroad.

Since I started with her publications, I will mention here her two studies - *On the (re) codifications of standard Bulgarian in Vardar and Aegean Macedonia* and *Pluritsentrizmat na balgarskia knizhoven ezik – rezultat ot dialektni kodifikatsii i ot dialektizirani prekodifikatsii*, in which she proves through linguistic facts the Bulgarian character of various formations used outside the borders of the Republic of Bulgaria. The consistency in the positions of Assoc. Prof. A. Kocheva would not be possible without the excellent knowledge of the history of the Bulgarian language and the characteristics of the Bulgarian dialects, which is expressed as in the two published monographs - *Nemski leksikalni elementi v balgarskite govori* (2004) and *Za narodnata osnova na starobalgarskia ezik* (2012), as well as in the publications with which she participates in the competition - *Die Sprachnorm des Hl. Methodius* (N 17); *Die Sprachnorm von Kyrill und Method* (N 19); *Vatroslav Oblak i ponyatiето Solunski govor* (N 22) and *Kirilo-Methodievata ezikova norma* (N 26). In them the main object of study are the characteristics of the Thessaloniki dialect and the ethnic basis of the first literary language of the Slavs.

Apart from being an established scientist not only in Bulgaria but also abroad, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ana Kocheva is also distinguished as a good organizer. She participates in 9 projects, 3 of which are international - *European Linguistic Atlas (ALE)*; *Language and culture in the era of globalization* and *Electronic model for*

comparative study of Bulgarian and Slovenian at the dialect level. She is also the leader of 4 projects - *Interactive culinary map of the Bulgarian language territory; Bulgarian dialect dictionary; Study of Bulgarian dialects at different language levels and Map of the Bulgarian language in a new place in the world.* Assoc. Prof. Kocheva is the research supervisor of the full-time doctoral student Aliza Khalil, she participates in the practical training of four young scientists under the project „*Integration of new practices and knowledge in teaching computer linguistics*” under OP, as she leads the practice in 2014 of 28 students from University of Sofia “Kl. Ohridski”, SWU “N. Rilski”, NBU, SHU “K. Preslavski”.

Based on what has been written so far about the work of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ana Ivanova Kocheva, the presented publications, her scientific work, explicated through **1452.5** points in scientometrics, her organizational skills and her consistent civil position on important linguistic issues for the Bulgarian public I am voting convinced for the election of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ana Ivanova Kocheva as a *professor* in the professional field 2.1. *Philology, scientific specialty Bulgarian language.*

14.09.2020
Veliko Tarnovo

Reviewer:.....
(*Assoc. Prof. Vladislav Marinov, Ph.D.*)