

Foreword

The “German and Scandinavian Studies” Journal is an electronic scientific peer-reviewed journal with open access, published by the Department of German and Scandinavian Studies at the Faculty of Classical and Modern Languages, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”.

The main aim of the journal is the popularization of scientific and applied-scientific research, as well as the artistic accomplishments of the BA, MA, PhD students and the lecturers at the Department of German and Scandinavian Studies. Materials, whose authors are not part of the department, but are closely related to the thematic scope of the journal are also accepted.

Articles, reviews of scientific editions and translations, surveys, reports, translations of fiction, nonfiction and scientific texts are published in the journal. Its thematic scope is wide and covers topics, related to the history, cultures, societies, languages and literatures of the German-speaking and Nordic countries. The editorial board for the journal consists of specialists in the theory of literature, theoretical and applied linguistics, translation studies, social studies and history.

The first edition, presented here, proves that the idea behind the establishment of a Bulgarian polythematic scientific journal, dedicated to subjects in the field of German and Scandinavian studies, is based on firm ground. The edition includes in-depth research papers in the field of Scandinavian linguistics (Maria Bakalova, Konstantin Radoev, Vladimir Naydenov), literature in German (Violeta Vicheva, Eva Patsovska, Maria Engreva), didactics (Veselina Kuzmanova), the Bulgarian reception of authors and literary works from the German speaking and Nordic countries (Maya Razboynokova-Frateva, Evgenia Tetimova). An important contribution of the journal is the fact that in most of the papers the themes are looked upon in the perspective of the foreign language teaching for Bulgarians and the cultural and literary interrelations between Bulgaria and the German speaking and Nordic countries.

Major part of the education, offered at the Department of German and Scandinavian Studies aims at preparing translators from German and Scandinavian languages with a wide range of in-depth theoretical knowledge and practical skills.

That is the reason why we decided to include a special section, which represents translations of prose works and poetry, done by already recognized translators, alumni of the Department and students with definite interest in the art of translation. We hope that the chosen excerpts would draw the attention of publishers to some unknown, but prominent authors and literary works, at the same time establishing contacts with their potential translators in Bulgarian.

Among the regular sections of the journal is the one, we present works by students and pupils in German and Scandinavian languages, which have been awarded at different competitions, organized by the Department or with its partnership.

We would like to thank all the authors of the journal, the publishing houses, who have offered parts of already published literary works, the editorial board and all the lecturers in the Department, who contributed to the preparation of the first issue of the German and Scandinavian Studies Journal. Enjoy reading it!