



# SOFIA UNIVERSITY ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI

## FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY

**PROF. TSVETELIN STEPANOV, DSC, PHD**

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### RESEARCH FIELD AND INTERESTS

Key words:

Middle Ages;

Bulgaria, Byzantium, ‘Steppe Empire’, Europe, and Caucasian peoples;

Culture, power, identities, mentalities, medieval apocalyptic texts;

*Otherness.*

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### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2020 - : “Sainthood and Military (Martial) *Ethos* in Christian Bulgaria” (at Dept. History and Theory of Culture, Faculty of Philosophy, St. Kliment Ohridski University).

2017 - : “Theory and History of Culture“ (at Dept. ‘History and Philosophy’, administered by the Faculty of History; the course has been taught together with Assoc. prof. Valentina Georgieva).

2010- : “History of the Caucasian Peoples” (at Dept. Armenian and Caucasian Studies, Faculty of Classical and Modern Languages, St Kliment Ohridski University, Sofia).

2008- : “Between the *East* and the *West*: Bulgarian Culture, 7<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> Century” (at Dept. History and Theory of Culture, St Kliment Ohridski University).

2008- : “Bulgarian Medieval Culture, 7<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> Century” (at Dept. History and Theory of Culture, St Kliment Ohridski University).

2008- : “Bulgarian Medieval Culture in Eurasian Context” (at Dept. History and Theory of Culture).

2006- : “Movable and Unmovable Monuments of Culture.” (in MA-program “Management of Culture and Socialization of Cultural Heritage”, at Dept. History and Theory of Culture).

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2000–2002: “Steppe Eurasia, 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Centuries: Power and Identities” (at Dept. History and Theory of Culture).

2002–2003: “Empires and Identities” (MA-program, at New Bulgarian University, Sofia).

1997–2002: “*Byzantium Outside Byzantium*, or about the “uses” of Byzantine Culture in Bulgaria, 7<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup> Centuries” (at Dept. History and Theory of Culture, St Kl. Ohridski University).

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#### SCIENTIFIC DEGREES AND ACADEMIC POSITIONS

PhD (in History, since 1997); Assoc. Professor (since 2006); Doctor Scientiarum (since 2015); Professor (since 2018).

Member of the Council of the Faculty of Philosophy, St. Kl. Ohridski University (2012-2019);

Member of the Attestation Commission of the Faculty of Philosophy, St. Kl. Ohridski University (2011-2015);

Member of the Scientific Council of the Research Center for Slavo-Byzantine Studies “Ivan Dujchev”, St. Kl. Ohridski University (since 2021).

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#### EDUCATION

HIGHSCHOOL (1978-83): NATIONAL LYCEUM OF ANCIENT LANGUAGES AND CULTURES “CONSTANTINE-CYRIL THE PHILOSOPHER”, SOFIA;

MA-degree (1985-1990): Faculty of History, St. Kliment Ohridski University, Sofia.

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#### PUBLICATION ACTIVITY

##### Important monographs:

- 1) Степанов, Ц., Власт и авторитет в ранносредновековна България (VII – ср. IX в.). София: Изд-во „Агато”, 1999; 206 стр. / [‘Power and Prestige in Early Medieval Bulgaria, 7<sup>th</sup> – mid-9<sup>th</sup> Centuries’. Sofia: Agato Publ.] // ISBN 954-8761-43-2.
- 2) Sztepanov, Cv., Lovasnomád birodalmak és városalakók. *A mások problémája*. Budapest: ‘Napkút Kiadó’, 2008; 150 Pp.//ISSN 1789-2023; ISBN 978 963 263 028 1.
- 3) Stepanov, Ts., The Bulgars and the Steppe Empire in the Early Middle Ages: The Problem of the ‘Others’. Leiden/Boston: ‘Brill’, 2010; 192 Pp. [[Brill Series ‘East Central and Eastern Europe in the Middle Ages, 450–1450’, Vol. 8]] // ISBN 978 90 04 18001 7.
- 4) Степанов, Цв., Религии в езическа България (Историографски подходи 1980-2015 г.). София: „Парадигма“, 2017; 257 стр./ [‘Religions in Pagan Bulgaria: Historiographic Approaches, 1980-2015’. Sofia: Paradigma] // ISBN 978-954-326-321-9.
- 5) Sztepanov, Cv., Vallások a pogány Bulgáriában. Historiográfiai megközelítések 1980 és 2015 között. Budapest: ‘Napkút Kiadó’, 2019; 242 Pp. [[Ómúltunk Tára, 15]] // ISBN 978-

963-263-885-0; ISSN 1789-2023.

- 6) Stepanov, Ts., *Waiting for the End of the World: European Dimensions, 950–1200*. Leiden-Boston: 'Brill', 2020; 364 Pp. [[Brill Series 'East Central and Eastern Europe in the Middle Ages, 450–1450', Vol. 57]] // ISBN 978-90-04-34393-1 (Hardback); 978-90-04-40993-4 (E-book).

### Important Articles:

- 1) Stepanov, Zv., *The Doctrine of Byzantine Supremacy in Extreme Situations (the Fall of Constantinople in 1204 and 1453)*. – *Bulgarian Historical Review*, 1992, 4, pp. 74-84.
- 2) Stepanov, Cv., *Periphery as Universe*. – *Byzantinoslavica* (Prague), T. LIX, 1998, fasc. 2, pp. 247-254.
- 3) Stepanov, Ts., *The Bulgar title ΚΑΝΑΣΥΒΙΓΙ: Reconstructing the notions of divine kingship in Bulgaria, AD 822-836*. – *Early Medieval Europe*, Vol. 10, 2001, Nr. 1, pp. 1-19.
- 4) Stepanov, Ts., *Ruler and Political Ideology in Pax Nomadica. Early Medieval Bulgaria and the Uighur Qaganate*. – In: Curta, F. (ed.), *East Central and Eastern Europe in the Early Middle Ages*. Ann Arbor: 'University of Michigan Press', 2005, pp. 152-161.
- 5) Степанов, Ц., Развитие концепции сакрального царя у хазар и болгар эпохи раннего Средневековья. – В: Хазары. Ред. В. Петрухин и др. Москва – Иерусалим: "Мосты культуры"/"Гешарим", 2005 [Евреи и славяне, Том 16], с. 317-325.
- 6) Stepanov, Ts., *Rulers, Doctrines, and Title Practices in Eastern Europe, 6th–9th Centuries*. – *Archivum Eurasiae Medii Aevi*. Vol. 14 (Wiesbaden), 2005, pp. 263-279.
- 7) Stepanov, Ts., *From 'Steppe' to Christian Empire, and Back: Bulgaria between 800 and 1100*: – In: F. Curta (ed.), [with the assistance of Roman K. Kovalev], *The Other Europe in the Middle Ages: Avars, Bulgars, Khazars, and Cumans*. Leiden–Boston: 'Brill', 2008, pp. 363-377.
- 8) Степанов, Цв., Болгары и христианство до 864 года: историографический ракурс (1989-2009). – *Славяноведение*, [Москва], 2010, № 4, с. 3-10.
- 9) Stepanov, Ts., *Memory and Oblivion in the Christian East, 990s–1200: Three Apocalyptic Cases*. – *Archivum Eurasiae Medii Aevi*, Vol. 18, [Wiesbaden], 2011, pp. 335-351.
- 10) Степанов, Цв., Мифологические стратегии генеалогии власти в раннесредневековой Болгарии и Хазарии. – Хазарский альманах, Харьков, Т. 9, 2010-2011, с. 241-257.
- 11) Stepanov, Ts., *State Formation in Danubian Bulgaria, AD 681--865: Religious Dimensions*. – *Studia Slavica et Balcanica Petropolitana*, 2013, [Санкт-Петербург], Nr. 1, pp. 5-32.
- 12) Stepanov, Ts., *The Giants-motif in Medieval Europe, North and South*. – In: *Scandinavia and the Balkans: Cultural Interactions with Byzantium and Eastern Europe in the First Millennium AD*. Eds. Oksana Minaeva and Lena Holmquist. 'Cambridge Scholars

Publishing', S. l., 2015, 96-105.

- 13) Степанов, Цв., Болгарские государственные образования IV–IX вв.: От вожества к раннему государству. – В: Древнейшие государства Восточной Европы 2014: Древняя Русь и средневековая Европа: возникновение государств. Отв. ред. Татьяна Н. Джаксон. Москва: „Университет Дмитрия Пожарского”, 2016, 193-212.
- 14) Stepanov, Ts., The system of succession in Qubrat's 'Magna Bulgaria': A new approach to an old problem. – In: Central Eurasia in the Middle Ages. Studies in Honour of Peter B. Golden. Eds. István Zimonyi and Osman Karatay. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz Verlag, 2016, 383-391. [Turcologica, Bd. 104].
- 15) Stepanov, Ts., Danube and Caucasus – the Bulgar(ian)s' Real and Imagined Frontiers. – In: Der Donaulimes in der Spätantike und im Frühmittelalter. Hrsg. A. Schwarcz, P. Soustal, A. Tcholakova. Wien: LIT Verlag, 2016 [Miscellanea Bulgarica, Bd. 22], 299-309.
- 16) Stepanov, Ts., Venerating St. Michael the Archangel in the Holy Roman Empire and in Bulgaria, 10<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup> Centuries: Similarities, Differences, Transformations. – Medieval Worlds, 2016, [Vienna], Nr. 3, 41-64 (*online at, [www.medievalworlds.com](http://www.medievalworlds.com)*).
- 17) Степанов, Цв., Время св. царя Бориса-Михаила Крестителя (852–889; † 907): между реальными историческими фактами девятого столетия и «фактами» избирательной памяти. – Древнейшие государства Восточной Европы 2019–2020 годы: дипломатические практики древности и средневековья. Отв. ред. Борис Рашковский. Москва, 2020, 186-214.
- 18) Stepanov, Ts., From 'steppe empires'/'super-complex chiefdoms' to 'early states': The case of Danube Bulgaria and Khazaria (Religious aspects). – *Хазарский альманах*. Т. 17, Москва, 2020, 284-296.
- 19) Stepanov, Ts., The History and Culture of Bulgaria in the 7<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Centuries: Between Two *East*s and Two *West*s. – *Byzantina Lodziensia*, Vol. 39, 2020, 163-176.

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## CONFERENCES

### *International Congresses and Conferences (attendance):*

2020: Int. Byzantine Studies Conference on the Occasion of 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Chair and Seminar for Byzantine Studies at the Univ. of Belgrade, Serbia (9-10. Nov.);

2018: The 6<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Polish Medievalists, in: Wroclaw, Univ. of Wroclaw (September);

2017: Bulgarian-South Korean Conference "On Religious and Cultural Contents in Korea and Bulgaria," in: Sofia, St. Kliment Ohridski University (16-17.11.);

2016: Int. Round Table 'Ancient Caucasian Albania: Traditions of Multiculturalism in Modern Azerbajdzhan,' in: Sofia, St. Kliment Ohridski University (14. 12.);

2013: Third Int. Congress on Bulgarian Studies, in: Sofia, St. Kliment Ohridski University (23-26.05.);

2012: Int. Conference 'Древняя Русь и средневековая Европа: Возникновение государств' / 'Ancient Rus' and Medieval Europe: The Emergence of States', in: Москва/Moscow, Институт Всеобщей Истории – РАН (Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> – Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>);

2012: Int. Conference 'Scandinavians on the Balkans in the Middle Ages: Cultural Interactions with the Byzantine World', in: Sofia, New Bulgarian University (Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>);

2011: Bulgarian–Serbian Symposium 'Scholarship in Transition: History and Parahistory', in: Serbia, University of Belgrade (19.-20. 09.);

2010: XXV Conference 'Slavs and Their Neighbours', dedicated to Myths and Legends of the Origins of Power from the Middle Ages up to the Early Modern Time, in: Moscow, Institute of Slavic Studies/Russian Academy of Sciences (18-21.05.);

2009: Third International Symposium of 'Byzantium Working Group', entitled "Memory and Oblivion in Byzantium", in: Sofia, St. Kliment Ohridski University (27-28. 11.);

2009: Bulgarian-Hungarian Conference 'Avars, Bulgars and Magyars on the Middle and Lower Danube', in: Sofia, National Archeological Institute with Museum (27-28. 05.);

2007: International Conference "Danube *Limes* in Late Antiquity and in the Early Middle Ages", in: Wien, Univ. of Wien (15-17 November);

2005: 40<sup>th</sup> Int. Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, U.S.A. (5-8 May);

2004: Int. Conference 'Bulgars and Their Neighbours, 5<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> Centuries', in: Varna, Bulgaria (22-24 April);

2002: 9<sup>th</sup> Int. Judaic Conference (The panel "2<sup>nd</sup> Int. Colloquium 'Khazars'"), in: Moscow/Korolev (Feb.);

2001: Int. Conference "Byzantine Cultural Heritage and the Balkans", in: Plovdiv (Sept.);

2001: Int. Conference "Prof. DSc Stancho Vaklinov and the Medieval Bulgarian Culture", in: Veliko Tarnovo, St. st. Cyril and Methodius University (18-20 May);

2000: Int. Conference "Medieval Medicine: Texts and Practices", in: Rila Monastery, Bulgaria (Sept.);

2000: Int. Conference 'In Memory of Prof. Dr. Veselin Beshevliev', in: Veliko Tarnovo, St. st. Cyril and Methodius University (May);

2000: Int. Conference "She on the Balkans", in: Bansko, South-Western University – Blagoevgrad (Feb.);

1999: Int. Conference 'In honor of Prof. DSc Jordan Andreev', in: Veliko Tarnovo, St. st. Cyril and Methodius University (May);

1999: Int. Medieval Congress "The Medieval Saint", in: Leeds, UK, Univ. of Leeds (12-15 July);

1998: Int. Conference "The Balkan and the Sea", in: Petrich, Bulgaria, South-Western University – Blagoevgrad (Feb.);

1993: Int. Conference “Prof. P. Mutafchiev – Known and Unknown”, in Sofia, St. Kliment Ohridski University.

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## PROJECTS

**2021–2024:** grant № КП-06 ПН60/5 [“Frontiers and Cultural Models: Paganism vs Christianity in the Contact Zone of the Danube *Limes* (Scythia Minor and Moesia Secunda, 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Centuries)”, from Bulgarian National Fund ‘Scientific Research’/Fundamental Research Funding.

**2009–2011:** 3-years grant from CAORC (Washington, D.C., U.S.A.) and Mellon Foundation, for the Project “Byzantine Memory and Memory of Byzantium” of ‘*Byzantium Working Group*’, Sofia.

**2007–2008:** 2-years grant from Mellon Foundation and ‘Maison des Sciences de l’Homme’/MSH (Paris), for the Project “Homo byzantinus?” of ‘*Byzantium Working Group*’, Sofia.

**2004–2005:** 1-year grant from Mellon Foundation and MSH (Paris), for the Project “Byzantium as seen by the Byzantines and the *Others*” of ‘*Byzantium Working Group*’, Sofia.

### **Individual Projects:**

**2012:** research grant of the Centre for Advanced Study/CAS (Sofia), for the Project “Invading in/from the ‘Holy Land’: Apocalyptic Metatext(s) and Sacred and/or Imagined Geography, 950–1200”;

**2005:** research grant of The Ohio State University, U.S.A. /‘Hilandar Resource Center’, for the Project “St. Michael the archangel in European Context”;

**2001:** research grant from ‘Maison des Sciences de l’Homme’ (Paris) and ‘Maison des Sciences de l’Homme et de la Société’ (Sofia), for the Project “Notions of the *Other* in Pax Nomadica, 6<sup>th</sup>–9<sup>th</sup> Centuries (Ancient Turks, Uighurs, Khazars, and Bulgars)”.

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