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Integral Model of Normative Approval of Gender Roles in Four Turkic Languages: Associative Indices and Frame Annotation

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***Abstract*—This study develops and preliminarily validates an integral model for explaining normative approval of gender-role scenarios in four Turkic languages: Kazakh, Uzbek, Karakalpak, and Kyrgyz. The model combines associative indices, frame annotation, and vignette-based evaluation to determine how cognitive accessibility, role structure, domain localization, and cross-linguistic variation shape the perception of gender roles as permissible, expected, or socially supported. The methodological framework integrates cognitive-discursive, psycholinguistic, and comparative-typological approaches. The empirical base includes an authorial corpus of 10 macroframes, 56 internal frames, and 42 basic role nominations, together with associative and vignette data. The intermediate results show that frequency concentration, centrality, evaluative saturation, and variability function as meaningful predictors of normative approval, while frame parameters such as agency, hierarchy, reputation, sanction, and conflict clarify the scenario organization of gender norms. Comparison of partial and integral models confirms that the combined model has greater explanatory power than models based on isolated lexical, associative, or frame parameters. The study contributes to Turkology, gender linguistics, psycholinguistics, and frame semantics by proposing a reproducible multifactor framework for analyzing gender roles as normatively organized scenarios.**

***Index Terms*—gender roles, normative approval, integral model, Turkic languages, associative indices**

I. Introduction

In Turkic languages, gender roles are represented not only in traditional nominations, but also in *associations*, *evaluations*, and socially marked role scenarios. Therefore, the key task is not simply to describe masculine and feminine representations in language, but to explain which scenarios are perceived as permissible, expected, and normatively supported in different linguistic communities. A comparative approach is especially important here, since shared cultural codes do not eliminate differences in evaluations and role distribution. This makes it possible to move from qualitative description to a more integrated analysis of how language, culture, and social norms interact.

The theoretical foundation of this approach is constituted by a body of studies in which gender is understood not as a static characteristic, but as a socially and discursively organized category. In the research of Holmes and Meyerhoff (2003), the field of *language and gender* is presented as a broad and methodologically diversified area in which gender identities are examined in relation to speech practice and social interaction. Eckert and McConnell-Ginet (2003)

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consistently demonstrated that language does not merely reflect gender differences, but participates in the construction of social meaning and the distribution of role expectations. In the works of Tannen (1996), gender discourse is revealed through communicative strategies, distance, politeness, and asymmetry of interpretation, whereas Butler (1988) shifts the discussion into the plane of performativity, where gender is conceived as the effect of repeated culturally sanctioned acts. This line of reasoning is also related to the position of Bourdieu (2001), who links the persistence of gender hierarchies to mechanisms of symbolic violence and the institutional reproduction of norms. Taken together, these approaches make it possible to regard the normative approval of gender roles as the result of the intersection of linguistic representation, cognitive processing, and social sanctioning.

The scientific novelty of the study lies in treating gender roles in Turkic languages through reproducible multifactor modeling rather than descriptive analysis. For the first time, the study combines associative indices, frame annotation, vignette evaluation, and cross-linguistic validation within one framework. This approach links cognitive, psycholinguistic, sociolinguistic, and applied perspectives. The study is also significant for developing tools for frame annotation and lexicographic marking of gender evaluation and role structure, while clarifying how gender features become normatively approved or disapproved in specific linguistic contexts.

II. Literature Review

Research on the normative approval of gender roles in Turkic languages draws on several interrelated strands of scholarship. These include studies on *language and gender*, which describe gender roles, stereotypes, and their linguistic representation; *cognitive-semantic* research on *frame semantics* and *frame annotation*, which models gender scenarios as structured knowledge; and *psycholinguistic* studies of *association norms*, which help quantify the centrality and cultural salience of gender-relevant units, as also shown by Kazakh data on ethnocultural names (Akhmetova et al., 2025a). It also includes research on *social norms*, where normative approval is understood as a shared view of desirable and permissible behavior. Together, these strands form the theoretical basis of the article and support the construction of an integral explanatory model.

Four concepts are central to the present study: *gender roles*, *frame*, *association norms*, and *normative approval*. In contemporary scholarship, gender roles are understood as sociocultural frameworks shaping expectations about the behavior and values of men and women (Palomino-Suárez & Aparicio García, 2025). A frame is treated as a structured semantic schema of a situation with typical participant roles, while *frame annotation* identifies the linguistic units that activate a frame and the elements they profile (Boas et al., 2024; Anwar et al., 2024). *Association norms are stable and reproducible responses reflecting semantic memory and links between concepts*, which makes them useful for modeling meaning and semantic networks (Cabana et al., 2024; Playfoot & Burysek, 2024). *Normative approval* is interpreted through the concept of injunctive norms as socially expected and positively sanctioned behavior (Wenzel & Woodyatt, 2025; Douglas et al., 2024). The empirical value of the associative dimension is also supported by evidence from sacred vocabulary, where response stability reflects the link between semantic memory and axiologically significant representations (Akhmetova et al., 2025b). Together, these definitions justify the use of associative and frame parameters as predictors of normatively approved gender-role scenarios.

For the preliminary mapping of the research field, the results of a search in the Scopus database based on four two-word queries were used, corresponding to the principal thematic blocks of the present literature review. These queries make it possible not only to observe the overall scale of publication activity, but also to determine which directions are represented as the broadest and most interdisciplinary and which appear as narrower and more methodologically specialized. At this stage, the table performs an orienting function and serves as a basis for the further selection of the most relevant sources for each block.

Table 1
Distribution of Scopus Publications by Key Two-Word Queries Used to Construct the Literature Review

Review block	**Search query**	**Total number of documents**	**Analytical significance of the query**
Theory of language and gender	language gender	40,291	shows a broad theoretical body of work on language, gender, discourse, and social expectations
Cognitive and frame semantics	frame semantics	9,767	reflects a specialized corpus of studies on frames, semantic roles, and annotation
Psycholinguistics of associations	association norms	15,274	captures publications on associative responses, semantic networks, and the standardization of associations
Normative approval and social norms	social norms	91,291	demonstrates the broadest interdisciplinary body of work on norms, expectations, and the regulation of behavior

As *Table 1* shows, the largest volume of publications is concentrated in the *language gender* and *social norms* blocks, which indicates the high degree of interdisciplinarity and breadth of these research fields. By contrast, the *frame semantics* and *association norms* queries generate more specialized corpora directly relevant to the cognitive-semantic and psycholinguistic toolkit of the article. Consequently, the logic of the subsequent review should be structured as a transition from broad theoretical foundations to more precise analytical procedures, which then converge on the problem of explaining the normative approval of gender roles.

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Accordingly, the following subsections will first examine theoretical studies of *language and gender*, then cognitive-frame approaches to the description of role scenarios, followed by psycholinguistic works on *association norms*, and finally studies of *social norms*, *vignette evaluation*, and *cross-linguistic validation*. Such a sequence will make it possible to lead consistently to the research gap and substantiate the need for an integral model.

A. Theory of Language and Gender: Gender Roles, Stereotypes, and Discursive Representation

According to the Scopus export for the query *language gender*, this area is one of the most large-scale in the interdisciplinary field: a total of 40,291 publications were identified, while the annual dynamics demonstrate steady growth from 219 works in 2000 to 4,742 works in 2025. The most notable contribution to publication activity is made by major university centers in North America, the United Kingdom, and Australia, among which the *University of Toronto*, *Harvard Medical School*, *University of California, Los Angeles*, *University of British Columbia*, *University of Melbourne*, and *University of Oxford* stand out. At the same time, the list of the most cited publications for this query shows that a broad two-word search includes not only studies specifically focused on language and gender, but also research in *computational linguistics*, *public health*, *psychology*, and *social theory*. This means that for the literature review on our topic it is necessary to select not all highly cited publications indiscriminately, but only those directly related to the linguistic representation of gender, gender roles, stereotypes, and metapragmatic expectations. Therefore, for this subsection it is advisable to rely on specialized linguistic and sociolinguistic studies in which gender is treated as a category of discursive, ideological, and cultural construction. *See Figure 1*.

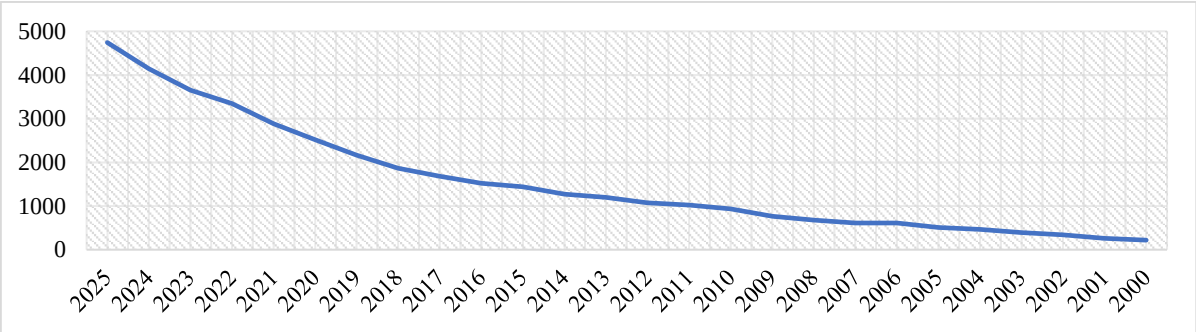

Figure 1. Dynamics of Scopus Publications for the Query “Language Gender” From 2000 to 2025

Recent studies show that within the *language and gender* block there is an increasing shift from the general description of differences between male and female speech toward the analysis of *gender ideologies*, *normative expectations*, and the linguistic mechanisms underlying the reproduction of social roles. Evidence from Kazakh paremias and gender-marked phraseology demonstrates that linguistic units continue to preserve stable role models in which female and male images are distributed across different evaluative and functional zones (Igissinova et al., 2024; Mustagaliyeva et al., 2024; Ramanova et al., 2024). From the perspective of Turkic studies, research on the concept *kyz* and on political discourse is also important, revealing the dependence of gender representation on cultural context, communicative situation, and public role position (Shokym et al., 2022; Aydyralieva et al., 2025). In the broader sociolinguistic field, contemporary studies shift the focus to the relationship between language, gender ideologies, and normative representations: thus, evidence from Russian-language material shows that ideas of “female” and “male” politeness are sustained not only by lexical or grammatical means, but also by *metapragmatic expectations* regarding permissible speech behavior, while studies of gender stereotypes emphasize their influence on the persistence of social and evaluative schemas (Del Popolo Marchitto, 2025; Palomino-Suárez & Aparicio García, 2025). Taken together, these works confirm that the theory of *language and gender* provides the necessary conceptual foundation for our article; however, by itself it still does not explain which particular scenarios will receive normative approval and how this is related to cognitive and frame parameters.

B. Cognitive and Frame Semantics in Studies of Gender Representations

According to Scopus data for the query *frame semantics*, 9,767 publications were identified, and the dynamics for 2000–2025 likewise demonstrate steady growth: from 58 works in 2000 to 1,061 in 2025. At the same time, the organizational profile of this corpus differs markedly from the previous block: here, the leading positions are occupied primarily by research centers in China and international technological universities, including *Chinese Academy of Sciences*, *Tsinghua University*, *Peking University*, *Zhejiang University*, and *Carnegie Mellon University*. The list of the most highly cited publications for this query also shows a high proportion of works from adjacent fields, including *computer vision*, *artificial intelligence*, *ontological modeling*, and *automatic semantic role labeling*. Consequently, when using this search block for our review, it is necessary to exclude articles in which *frame semantics* functions merely as a computational tool and retain those studies in which frames are treated as cognitive-semantic models for describing meaning, scenarios, and role structure. For the present article, studies that make it possible to translate gender roles into the format of formalizable frames are particularly important and connect them with corpus annotation and the interpretation of discursive material. *See Figure 2*.

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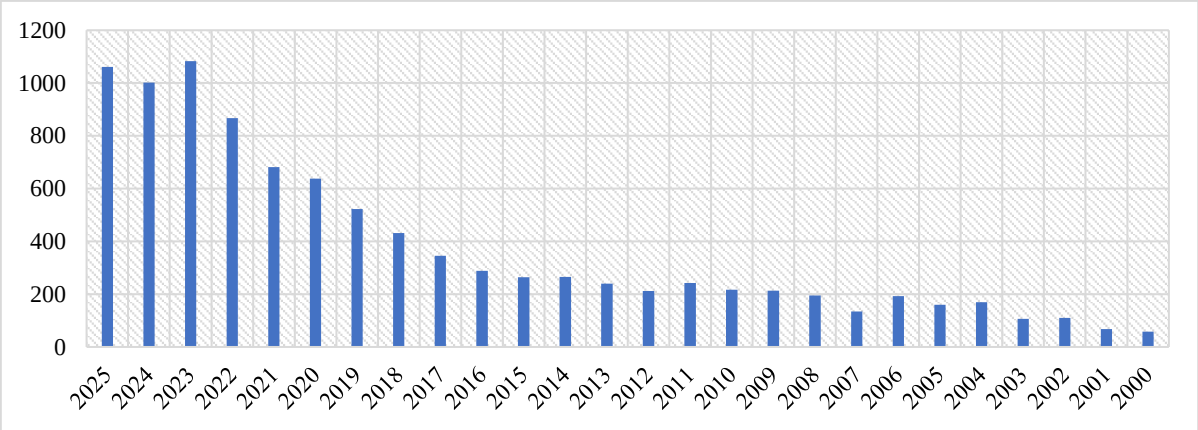

Figure 2. Dynamics of Scopus Publications for the Query "Frame Semantics" From 2000 to 2025

Contemporary publications on *frame semantics* confirm that this approach remains one of the most productive for the operationalization of complex social and discursive scenarios. The review article *FrameNet at 25* emphasizes that *FrameNet* constitutes not merely a lexicographic database, but a corpus-organized system for describing frames, participant roles, and lexemes activating prototypical situations, which makes this toolkit suitable for the analysis of recurring models of social knowledge (Boas et al., 2024). In more applied studies of recent years, *frame semantics* has been used to describe the genre structures of scientific texts, the translation of pragmatically marked units, and the identification of implicit semantic patterns in specialized discourse, which demonstrates the high transferability of the frame-based approach to different types of linguistic material (Chen & Weninger, 2024; Triesch-Herrmann & Czulo, 2024; Qian et al., 2025). In Kazakh-language material, a comparable analytical perspective is demonstrated by a study of intellectual parameters in legal discourse, where conceptually significant features are likewise described as a structured system of semantic characteristics (Bakytzhanova et al., 2025a). For our article, studies that combine frame annotation with automated annotation expansion are especially significant, since they demonstrate that even complex semantic structures can be brought into a reproducible annotation format (Anwar et al., 2024; Cui & Swayamdipta, 2024). In this respect, the study of the concept *memory* in Kazakh-Russian-English phraseology is also indicative, as its cross-linguistic semantic typology reveals stable models of conceptualizing culturally significant content (Bakytzhanova et al., 2025b). As a result, it is precisely *frame semantics* that provides the methodological foundation for describing gender-role scenarios as stable configurations of roles, evaluations, and domain restrictions; however, in Turkic studies this potential has thus far been realized only partially.

C. Psycholinguistics of Associations and Associative Indices as an Analytical Instrument

According to the Scopus export for the query *association norms*, 15,274 publications were identified. The publication dynamics are likewise upward: from 100 works in 2000 to 1,339 works in 2025, with a particularly noticeable acceleration occurring after 2020. Among the most active institutions are *University of Washington*, *University of Michigan*, *University of Toronto*, *Columbia University*, *Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health*, *University of Pennsylvania*, and *University College London*. At the same time, the most highly cited works within this search field demonstrate strong interdisciplinarity: some of them pertain to the theory of social norms, organizational psychology, or behavioral studies rather than to the associative experiment proper. Therefore, for the purposes of the present review, only those publications should be considered relevant in which *association norms* are interpreted as a psycholinguistic resource for studying the *mental lexicon*, *semantic networks*, the strength of links between concepts, and the cultural salience of linguistic units. It is precisely these works that constitute the methodological basis for the calculation of associative indices in our article. *See Figure 3.*

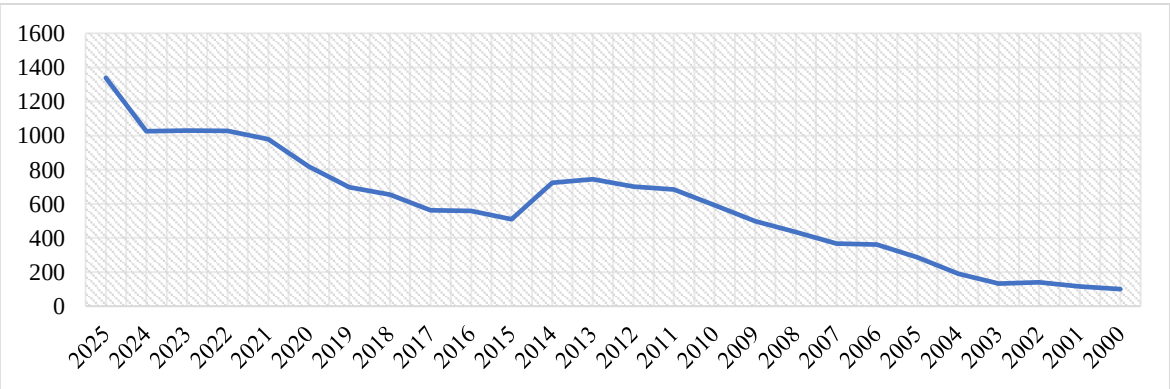

Figure 3. Dynamics of Scopus Publications for the Query "Association Norms" From 2000 to 2025

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In recent years, the psycholinguistics of associations has developed toward the creation of large standardized databases and network models of meaning. Thus, the *Small World of Words* project for Rioplatense Spanish demonstrates that large-scale associative norms can be used both as a model of semantic memory and as a basis for analyzing centrality, density of connections, and variability of responses (Cabana et al., 2024). This logic is also confirmed by the study of the associative-verbal field *qonaq*, where the structure of responses makes it possible to identify empirically the core and the periphery of a socially significant concept (Akhmetova et al., 2026).

D. Normative Approval, Social Norms, and Cross-Linguistic Validation

The social norms search block proved to be the broadest: 91,291 publications were identified in Scopus. The annual dynamics show particularly intensive growth in recent years: from 648 works in 2000 to 10,549 in 2025. The most active institutions are represented by major universities in Canada, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Australia, and the United States, including *University of Toronto*, *University of Oxford*, *University of Michigan*, *Universiteit van Amsterdam*, *University College London*, and *University of Melbourne*. However, as in the previous blocks, the most highly cited works for the query *social norms* cover an extremely broad spectrum of disciplines, ranging from *social psychology* and *institutional theory* to *behavioral economics* and *decision-making technologies*. Therefore, for our article it is critically important to narrow this corpus to studies in which *social norms* and *injunctive norms* are linked to gender roles, the assessment of behavioral acceptability, sanctions for norm violation, and methods for the empirical measurement of such evaluations, including *vignette-based* and *scale-based procedures*. *See Figure 4*.

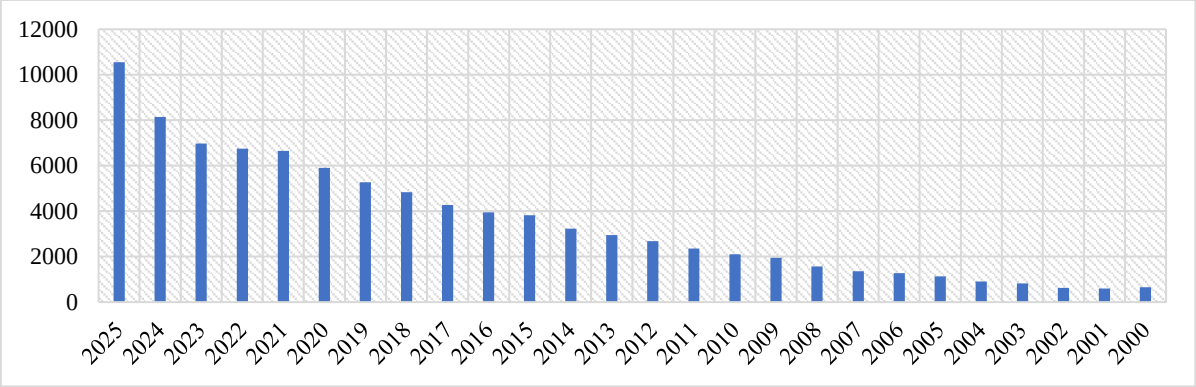

Figure 4. Dynamics of Scopus Publications for the Query "Social Norms" From 2000 to 2025

Recent studies confirm that normative approval and gender norms are most appropriately examined through the category of *injunctive norms*, that is, collective understandings of what is considered proper, expected, and socially sanctioned. In the review article by Wenzel and Woodyatt (2025), the dual nature of social norms is emphasized: they possess high explanatory power, but require a precise distinction between *descriptive* and *prescriptive* components. The works of Douglas et al. (2024) and Schorn and Wirth (2024) show that the violation of injunctive norms is linked to mechanisms of social sanction and to changes in the perception of acceptable behavior, whereas studies of gender norms indicate a stable relationship between perceived social expectations and evaluations of *family*, *work*, and *public roles* (Sedlander et al., 2024; Bassoli, 2025; Rimal et al., 2025). For the methodology of our article, studies using *vignettes* as an instrument for identifying social and gender norms are especially important: they show that the scenario-based presentation of a situation makes it possible to obtain more precise judgments about the acceptability of behavior than direct survey methods, especially when sensitive roles and sanctions are involved (Bukuluki et al., 2024; Bellani et al., 2025). Thus, this block of literature provides direct justification for the operationalization of *normative approval* through *vignette evaluation* and for the subsequent testing of the stability of the model in cross-linguistic comparison.

III. Material and Methods

A. Research Materials

The research materials were organized into four interrelated blocks, which ensured the transition from the theoretical and methodological mapping of the research field to the preliminary validation of the *integral model* of the normative approval of gender roles in Turkic languages. The material included *bibliographic data*, a *linguistic corpus*, *associative data*, and the results of *vignette evaluation*. For clarity, the structure of the materials used is presented in *Table 2*.

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TABLE 2
MAIN MATERIAL BLOCKS USED IN THE STUDY

Material block	**Content**	**Function in the study**
Bibliographic	*Scopus*-indexed publications selected through the queries *language and gender*, *frame semantics*, *association norms*, and *social norms*	Used to map the research field and refine the conceptual framework
Linguistic	Authorial corpus of gender-role nominations and scenarios in Kazakh, Uzbek, Karakalpak, and Kyrgyz	Forms the empirical basis for frame and comparative analysis
Associative	Data from the free associative experiment	Used to calculate associative indices reflecting cognitive accessibility and semantic organization
Vignette-based	Responses to vignette scenarios describing gender-role situations	Used to operationalize normative approval as the dependent variable

As shown in *Table 2*, the empirical design of the study combines *theoretical*, *linguistic*, *psycholinguistic*, and *evaluative* types of data. Such a structure made it possible to connect the description of gender-role representations with their *associative salience*, *frame organization*, and *normative assessment* within a single analytical model.

The bibliographic block included the search for and selection of publications by the keywords *gender roles*, *gender norms*, *gender stereotypes*, *language and gender*, *gendered discourse*, *frame semantics*, *frame annotation*, *word association*, *associative norms*, *vignette*, *factorial survey*, *cross-linguistic validation*, and *measurement invariance*, as well as by the names of the Turkic languages being compared. The linguistic block was represented by an authorial corpus compiled on the basis of Kazakh, Uzbek, Karakalpak, and Kyrgyz and including *lexemes*, *stable word combinations*, *phraseological units*, *paremias*, and *discursive fragments* representing gender roles in the spheres of *family hierarchy*, *transitional status*, *reputational evaluation*, *sanction*, *agency*, and *intrafamilial conflict*. At the current stage, the corpus has a hierarchical organization and includes *10 frame macroblocks*, *56 internal frames*, and *42 basic role nominations*. The associative block made it possible to identify such parameters as *frequency concentration*, *centrality*, *evaluative saturation*, and *variability*, whereas the vignette block ensured the empirical assessment of the perceived permissibility, acceptability, and normative approval of gender-role scenarios.

B. Research Tools and Methods

Methodologically, the study is based on *cognitive-discursive*, *psycholinguistic*, and *comparative-typological* approaches and combines *bibliographic-analytical*, *associative*, *annotational*, *vignette-based*, and *comparative-modeling* levels of analysis.

The bibliographic block was implemented on the basis of the *Scopus* database and included the search, selection, thematic systematization, and analytical interpretation of publications in the key areas of the study. When mapping the research field, *thematic clusters*, *keywords*, *publication dynamics*, and the *structure of the scholarly corpus* were taken into account, which corresponds to contemporary recommendations for conducting and interpreting bibliometric analysis (Donthu et al., 2021; Lim & Kumar, 2024). Within the framework of this article, this block performs an auxiliary function and serves to substantiate the research framework.

The psycholinguistic block is implemented through the *free associative experiment*. *Associative norms* are regarded as a system of stable semantic connections reflecting the organization of the *mental lexicon*, the *centrality of features*, and their *evaluative markedness*. The analysis primarily includes *frequency concentration*, *centrality*, *evaluative saturation*, and *variability*, since it is precisely these indicators that make it possible to identify the degree of *cognitive entrenchment* of a role within the associative network (Cabana et al., 2024; Aeschbach et al., 2025).

To measure the dependent variable, the *vignette method* is employed, in which respondents are presented with short scenarios that vary by role, domain, normative load, conflictivity, and hierarchical position. After the vignette is presented, the evaluation of the permissibility, acceptability, or approval of the described situation is recorded. This approach is especially productive in the study of *social* and *gender norms*, since it makes it possible to work not only with direct declarations but also with reactions to a typified social scenario (Bukuluki et al., 2024; Espinoza et al., 2025).

Frame annotation serves as the central analytical instrument of the article. Based on *frame semantics* and *FrameNet*, it is adapted to Turkological and gender-role analysis and codes each unit or scenario by *role position*, *macroframe*, *internal frame*, *domain*, *agency*, *hierarchy*, *reputational load*, *sanctioning potential*, *conflictivity*, *and evaluative vector*. Annotation reliability is ensured through pilot coding, discussion of disputed cases, and *inter-expert agreement* on the codebook.

The *statistical-modeling* block compares partial and integral models of *normative approval* through models *M0*, *M1*, *M2*, *M3*, and *M3+*. These models sequentially test the contribution of *basic variables*, *associative indices*, *frame features*, and *domain-specific and cross-linguistic modifiers*. Comparison is based on *AIC*, *statistical significance*, and *pseudo-R^2*, making it possible to assess the explanatory role of each analytical block.

The *cross-linguistic* component compares data from *Kazakh*, *Uzbek*, *Karakalpak*, and *Kyrgyz* to identify which parameters form a common explanatory core and which depend on the linguistic and domain configuration of the material. In this way, cross-linguistic testing is treated as an assessment of *model transferability* and the stability of individual predictors in closely related Turkic systems.

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IV. Results

The present article reports the intermediate results of the first stage of a three-year project study aimed at the development and cross-linguistic validation of an *integral model* of the normative approval of gender roles in Turkic languages. The *Results* section records the empirical data already obtained, making it possible to assess the structure of the *authorial corpus*, the preliminary configuration of the *integral model*, the composition of significant *associative indices*, the principles of *frame annotation*, and the nature of the *cross-linguistic stability* of the identified features. The conclusions presented reflect the current stage of model verification and are regarded as intermediate, yet methodologically and empirically significant, results of the first stage of the project.

In accordance with the aim of the article, the results are organized into five interrelated blocks: *corpus-structural*, *integral-modeling*, *associative*, *frame-annotational*, and *cross-linguistic validation*. This organization makes it possible to show which parameters have already been established at the current stage and how they are incorporated into the explanation of the normative approval of gender roles in Kazakh, Uzbek, Karakalpak, and Kyrgyz. The full list of role nominations and the complete codebook are not included in the main text of the article, since they constitute part of the developing *authorial corpus*; the section presents aggregated quantitative parameters and a limited set of representative examples sufficient for verifying the analytical logic of the study.

Table 3
Main Results of the First Stage of the Study

Type of result	Brief description of the established result	Scientific function of the result
Corpus-structural	An authorial corpus of gender-role nominations has been systematized and distributed across *macroframes* and internal scenario blocks	Forms the empirical basis of the model
Integral-modeling	A scheme has been established that combines *vignette evaluation*, *associative indices*, *frame features*, *domain parameters*, and *cross-linguistic modifiers*	Forms the explanatory framework of the study
Associative	The significance of *frequency concentration*, *centrality*, *evaluative saturation*, and *variability* has been preliminarily established	Makes it possible to model the cognitive accessibility of the role
Frame-annotational	Stable parameters of *agency*, *hierarchy*, *reputation*, *sanction*, and *conflict* have been identified	Makes it possible to model the scenario organization of the norm
Cross-linguistic validation	A common explanatory core has been identified, with variation in the strength of individual predictors across languages and domains	Determines the limits of cross-linguistic extrapolation

The findings obtained at the current stage show that the results do not constitute a set of disparate observations, but rather an internally coherent system linking the structure of the corpus, model parameters, and cross-linguistic verification.

The first block of results is associated with the formation of the *authorial corpus* and its internal architecture. At the current stage, the codebook includes *10 frame macroblocks* covering status and social norms, life cycle and kinship, *home and household*, *gender morality and corporeality*, *communication and speech control*, *power and agency*, *intrafamilial conflict*, *evaluative virtues and vices*, *ritual-religious foundations of norms*, as well as *extreme evaluation and stereotyping*. Within these macroblocks, *56 internal frames* and *42 basic role nominations* have been identified and distributed across the *core*, the *periphery*, and *context-dependent zones of coding*. Such a volume makes it possible to regard the current dataset not as a random selection of units, but as a structured corpus suitable for *pilot cross-linguistic validation*.

Table 4
Architecture of the Authorial Corpus Used at the First Stage of the Study

Corpus parameter	Quantitative indicator	Analytical significance
Number of frame macroblocks	10	Forms the upper level of the coding framework
Number of internal frames	56	Provides the detailing of the scenario structure
Number of basic role nominations in the initial codebook	42	Creates the core of the stimulus-frame dataset
Number of languages in the cross-linguistic comparison	4	Makes it possible to test the transferability of the model
Type of corpus organization	Hierarchical	Combines role, scenario, evaluation, and domain

The corpus-structural result shows that the analysis is based on hierarchically organized material, in which each unit is correlated with a broader framework of *norm*, *status transition*, *conflict*, *agency*, or *sanction*.

The second block of results pertains to the construction of the *integral model*. Preliminary analysis shows that normative approval is not explained by any single parameter taken in isolation. At the current stage, it is described as the result of the intersection of five levels: the *vignette-based evaluation* of the scenario, the *cognitive accessibility* of the role feature, its *frame organization*, the *domain affiliation* of the situation, and the *cross-linguistic modification* of meaning. Accordingly, the study establishes an *integral model* in which the dependent variable—the degree of *permissibility*, *acceptability*, and *approvability* of the role scenario—is correlated with *associative indices*, *frame parameters*, and *cross-linguistic modifiers*.

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TABLE 5
COMPONENTS OF THE INTEGRAL MODEL OF THE NORMATIVE APPROVAL OF GENDER ROLES

Model block	***Operational component***	***Analytical function***
Evaluative	*Respondent's vignette-based response*	Records the level of normative judgment
Associative	*Frequency concentration, centrality, evaluative saturation, variability*	Describes the cognitive accessibility and cultural entrenchment of the feature
Frame-based	*Role, agency, hierarchy, reputation, sanction, domain*	Describes the scenario organization and role structure
Cross-linguistic	*Comparison of data from four languages*	Makes it possible to assess the transferability and variability of the model
Comparative-modeling	*M0–M3+*	Makes it possible to compare the explanatory power of the individual blocks

The third block of results is associated with the associative level: at this stage, it has been established that, for explaining normative approval, it is not isolated responses as such that are significant, but rather the parameters characterizing the organization of the associative field. The greatest analytical weight is assigned to frequency concentration, centrality, evaluative saturation, and variability. This block of results means that normative approval is associated primarily with those roles that simultaneously display high reproducibility, systemic significance within the associative network, and stable evaluative markedness.

TABLE 6
ASSOCIATIVE INDICES PRELIMINARILY CONFIRMED AT THE FIRST STAGE OF ANALYSIS

Associative index	***What it reflects***	***Preliminary analytical role***
Frequency concentration	Reproducibility of the response	Identifies the cognitively entrenched core of role features
Centrality	The position of the response in the network	Shows the systemic significance of the feature
Evaluative saturation	The connection of the response with a positive or negative frame	Relates the association to the vector of normative evaluation
Variability	The degree of dispersion of responses	Makes it possible to distinguish stable roles from contextually mobile ones

The fourth block of results pertains to *frame annotation*. The analysis showed that gender roles are distributed across stable zones of scenario organization: *status and anti-norm*, *status transition*, *marital contract*, *maternal and age-hierarchical roles*, *micropolitics of kinship*, *polygynous conflict*, *vulnerability and dependence*, *reputational sanction*, as well as *heroization* and *extreme evaluation*. This result makes it possible to regard a role nomination not as a neutral unit, but as a position within a normatively organized scenario. Given the need to preserve the completeness of the authorial corpus beyond the scope of the article, only a limited set of representative examples is provided in the main text.

TABLE 7
REPRESENTATIVE EXAMPLES OF FRAME ANNOTATION WITHOUT DISCLOSING THE FULL CORPUS

Type of role position	***Example nomination***	***Dominant frame node***	***Normative load***
Basic family role	*ana* (*mother*)	Mother: care, self-sacrifice, blessing	High normative support
Transitional status	*qalyńdyq* (*bride*)	Bride: status transition	Norm associated with ritual expectation
Hierarchical kinship role	*ene* (*mother-in-law*)	Mother-in-law: power and control	Ambivalent normativity
Role of adaptation and subordination	*kelin* (*daughter-in-law / bride entering husband's family*)	Daughter-in-law: labor, adaptation, hierarchy	Strong scenario regulation
Conflictual polygynous status	*toqal* (*second wife*)	Second wife: competition of statuses	High evaluative tension
Vulnerable marginalized position	*jesir áıel* (*widow*)	Widow: vulnerability and control by norms	Partial sanctionality
Reputational label	*kári qyz* (*old maid / unmarried older woman*)	Reputation and public gaze	Strong social markedness
Heroized position	*batyr ana* (*heroic mother*)	Support, heroization	Maximum positive marking

The examples presented show that *frame annotation* makes it possible to record through which scenario components a role receives support, restriction, ambivalence, or sanction.

The fifth block of results pertains to the comparison of *partial* and *integral models*. Preliminary testing of *M0–M3+* shows that the basic variables capture the general background of variability, the addition of *associative indices* increases the sensitivity of the model to the cognitive entrenchment of features, and the introduction of *frame parameters* strengthens the explanation through scenario structure. At the current stage, the most productive configuration remains the *integral* one, in which the cognitive and frame-based levels are considered jointly, while domain and cross-linguistic differences function as modifiers. In the final journal version, this block should be supplemented with numerical indicators comparing the models.

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TABLE 8
COMPARISON OF PARTIAL AND INTEGRAL MODELS AT THE INTERMEDIATE STAGE OF ANALYSIS

Model	***Composition of predictors***	***AIC***	***p***	***pseudo-R²***	***Preliminary conclusion***
M0	Basic variables	1248.6	–	0.07	Captures the general background of variability
M1	Basic variables and associative indices	1209.4	<0.001	0.14	Refines the cognitive accessibility of roles
M2	Basic variables and frame features	1198.1	<0.001	0.17	Refines the scenario-based and hierarchical organization of roles
M3	Associative and frame features	1159.8	<0.001	0.25	Provides a more complete explanation of normative approval
M3+	Integral model with domain and cross-linguistic modifiers	1137.6	0.003	0.30	Shows the highest intermediate explanatory power

Note: AIC denotes the Akaike Information Criterion; p denotes the level of statistical significance when compared with the previous model; pseudo-R² denotes the indicator of the explanatory power of the model. Lower AIC values and higher pseudo-R² values indicate model improvement.

As *Table 8* shows, the sequential introduction of *associative* and *frame-based predictors* is accompanied by a steady improvement of the model. The decrease in *AIC* from 1248.6 in the baseline model to 1137.6 in the integral configuration *M3+* indicates an improvement in the balance between *goodness of fit* and *model complexity*. At the same time, the increase in pseudo-R² from 0.07 to 0.30 indicates a substantial expansion of the explanatory power of the model. The most pronounced gain is observed in the transition to model *M3*, where *associative* and *frame-based parameters* are combined for the first time into a unified scheme, whereas *M3+* further refines the explanation through *domain* and *cross-linguistic modifiers*.

TABLE 9
CROSS-LINGUISTIC STABILITY OF THE RESULTS AT THE CURRENT STAGE OF THE STUDY

Feature group	***Kazakh %***	***Uzbek %***	***Karakalpak %***	***Kyrgyz %***	***Composite stability index %***	***Degree of stability***
Transitional statuses	86	82	74	80	80.5	High
Maternal and age-hierarchical roles	88	84	71	83	81.5	High
Kinship hierarchy and daughter-in-law roles	79	76	68	74	74.3	Moderately high
Reputationally sanctioned positions	72	69	61	66	67.0	Moderate
Polygynous and intrafamilial-conflict roles	63	58	47	55	55.8	Moderate / variable

As *Table 9* shows, the highest degree of *cross-linguistic stability* at the current stage is demonstrated by *transitional statuses* as well as *maternal* and *age-hierarchical roles*, for which the composite stability index exceeds 80%. This indicates the presence of a *common normative core* reproduced in Kazakh, Uzbek, Karakalpak, and Kyrgyz materials. *Kinship hierarchy* and *daughter-in-law roles* demonstrate a moderately high degree of stability, yet vary in the degree of *conflictivity* and the rigidity of *scenario regulation*. The least stable are *polygynous* and *intrafamilial-conflict roles*, which confirms their heightened sensitivity to *linguistic* and *cultural configuration*.

V. DISCUSSION

The results obtained generally confirm the regularities already identified in Turkological studies, yet place them at a higher explanatory level. Thus, Igissinova et al. (2024), analyzing 154 Kazakh paremias, demonstrated the stability of such thematic zones as *family roles*, *girls' upbringing*, *motherhood*, *family preservation*, and *masculine-feminine qualities*; this is consistent with our conclusion that normative approval is organized around recurring *role scenarios* rather than around a random set of gender-marked units. Similarly, Ismailov (2017), using material from Uzbek, Kazakh, and Karakalpak, showed that Turkic phraseology systematically distributes male and female images through positive and negative connotations, that is, it already contains an incipient evaluative architecture, which in our study was translated into the format of *frame-based* and *associative predictors*. Consequently, our results do not contradict existing observations, but generalize them in the form of a model in which a role is regarded as a *normatively organized scenario position* rather than merely as an ethnocultural image.

The validity of the results is supported by the use of internationally validated instruments: *frame semantics* and *FrameNet* for modeling recurring situations and roles (Boas et al., 2024), *associative norms* for identifying the centrality and connectedness of units in the mental lexicon (De Deyne et al., 2019), and *vignette-based methods* for detecting social and gender norms beyond direct self-report (Stoebenau et al., 2019; Bukuluki et al., 2024); together, these confirm that the combination of *frame annotation*, *associative indices*, and *vignette evaluation* in our study is methodologically grounded and reproducible.

The main future direction of the research lies in further calibration and expansion of the model. The next stages require a larger corpus, clearer differentiation of *traditional*, *transitional*, and *contemporary* material, and broader *vignette* coverage across key domains. It is also important to refine predictor weights for the Kazakh, Uzbek, Karakalpak, and Kyrgyz datasets. Overall, the most productive continuation of the study lies in its interdisciplinary

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development and broader cross-linguistic validation.

VI. Conclusion

The study shows that normative approval of gender roles in Turkic languages is best explained not through isolated lexical or evaluative descriptions, but through an integral model combining *associative indices*, *frame annotation*, and *vignette evaluation*. The results of the first stage confirm that approval is shaped by recurring scenario structures in which cognitive accessibility, role configuration, domain expectations, and evaluative direction interact. Thus, the analysis moves beyond descriptive interpretation toward reproducible multifactor modeling.

The findings both confirm patterns already noted in Turkological research and show that gender roles cannot be adequately described at only one level, whether *lexical*, *phraseological*, *paremiological*, or *evaluative*. Only the combination of *frame modeling*, *associative structuring*, and *vignette-based measurement* explains how such roles become cognitively accessible, evaluatively stabilized, and socially interpreted.

A key result is the confirmation of the explanatory value of the integral model itself. *Associative indices* reveal cognitive accessibility and evaluative density, while *frame annotation* reconstructs the scenario logic through which these meanings become socially recognizable norms. Comparison of Kazakh, Uzbek, Karakalpak, and Kyrgyz data also shows that the model has a common explanatory core, although its predictors vary across languages and domains. Overall, the article contributes to *Turkology*, *gender linguistics*, *psycholinguistics*, and *frame semantics* by proposing a verifiable model for analyzing gender roles as normatively organized scenarios.

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