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New Perspectives on Balkan Linguistics

Nouvelles perspectives sur la linguistique balkanique

Proceedings of the session held at the 12th International Congress of South-East European Studies (Bucharest, 2-6 September 2019)

Edited by

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81

FOREWORD

The Linguistics section of the 12th International Congress of South-East European Studies, held in Bucharest 2-6 September 2019, set out to provide a comprehensive overview of current trends in the field. The contributions gathered in the present volume deal mainly with aspects of regional language contact, from the perspective of comparative and historical grammar, phonetics, and the historical development of the lexicon.

The volume is in two parts. In the first, Victor Friedman and Catherine Rudin point out the complicated relationships between the dialects and varieties of Greek, Albanian, Bulgarian and Macedonian, touching also on the Romanian varieties south of the Danube, and Romani, from the point of view of Multiple Determination or the co-ocurrence of (definite) determiners within the nominal phrase. Two articles have as their main focus the analysis of the temporal and modal values of the Balkan future (Petya Asenova and Christina Markou), and of the emergence of the conditional as a future in the past (Ekaterina Tarpomanova and Bilyana Mihaylova). Mihaela Mariana Morcov explains how some morpho-syntactic features are leading Albanian closer to the western Romance languages and away from Romanian. Artur Karasiński provides an inventory of suffixes in an attempt to establish criteria for differentiating the base form from alternant forms in the Albanian derivational system. Irena Sawicka sheds light on a convergent phonetic phenomenon involving the realization of occlusives, which occurs over a vast multilingual area (Greek, southern Slavonic and Aromanian, in Northern Macedonia, in Aegean Macedonia (Northern Greece), Bulgarian Macedonia, south of Bulgaria and Albania). Finally, Dana-Mihaela Zamfir and Oana Ută Bărbulescu scrutinize the story of loss of nasality in a series of terms inherited in Romanian from Latin or belonging to the substratum, by comparison with Albanian (grâu, frâu, brâu, pârâu: Alb. gru,-ri, fre,-ri, brez, -i, përrua).

The second part is dedicated to the study of the lexicon. Helmut W. Schaller deals with Turkish influence on the Balkan languages, and points out similarities and differences in the inventory, as well as convergent and divergent developments. The principles behind the publication of the *Etymological Dictionary of the Romanian Language* are described by Ion Giurgea, Cristian Moroianu and Monica Vasileanu and illustrated by examples of contact with the Balkan languages. Mihaela Marin presents an historical update on research into the terms *mal* and *măgură*, considering their semantic development in comparison with their Albanian counterparts. Cătălina Vătășescu's presentation

6

of the emergence and research methods of the Romanian Balkanologist Theodor Capidan's 1943 volume *Language and culture* reveals how relevant Capidan's approach continues to be.

The studies collected in this volume reflect continuing linguistic interest in the history of contacts between the languages of south-eastern Europe, as well as in aspects of modern exchanges. The findings of linguistic research will continue to be of great value to other disciplines dealing with this region.

We are particularly grateful to Andrei Timotin – the director of the Institute and co-editor of *Bibliothèque de l'Institut d'études sud-est européennes* series – for his outstanding support in the process of editing this book. We are also grateful to the Istros Publishing House of the Brăila Museum "Carol I" for printing the volume to excellent standards. We also wish to thank our colleague and contributor to this volume Oana Uță Bărbulescu for all the assistance she has provided.

Cătălina Vătășescu

CONTENTS

Foreword
Part 1
Victor A. Friedman, Catherine Rudin, Double Determination in Balkan Slavic and Albanian: Typology & Areality
Petya Assenova, Christina Markou, Grammaticalisation et modalité des formes du futur balkanique
Ekaterina Tarpomanova, Bilyana Mihaylova, Future in the Past and Conditional in the Balkan Languages
Mihaela-Mariana Morcov, Parallélismes morpho-syntaxiques entre l'albanais et les langues romanes occidentales en contraste avec le roumain
Artur Karasiński, On the Issues of Albanian Word Formation. The Variation of Word Formation Units in the Albanian Word-Formation System
Irena Sawicka, The Phonetic Convergence in the Balkans
Dana-Mihaela Zamfir, Oana Uţă Bărbulescu, Variations historiques et dialectales dans la flexion et l'aspect phonétique des mots roumains grâu « blé », frâu « frein », brâu « ceinture » et pârâu « ruisseau » et de leurs correspondants en albanais
Part 2
Helmut W. Schaller, Turkish Influence on Balkan languages: the Example of Bulgarian
Ion Giurgea, Cristian Moroianu, Monica Vasileanu, <i>The Project of a New Etymological Dictionary of Romanian</i> (Dicţionarul etimologic al limbii române – DELR)

Mihaela Marin, Deux termes roumains avec des équivalents en alban	173
Cătălina Vătășescu, Un livre important dans le développement des études concernant l'union linguistique balkanique : Th. Capidan, Limbă și cultură (Bucarest, 1943)	183
Bibliography	191
The Contributors	207