

## Slavic Literary Microlanguages Amid Internationalisation Trends (Based on Examples from the Codified Language of the Banat Bulgarians)

MARINELA MLADENOVA, *South-West University Neofit Rilski (Bulgaria)*  
marinela\_mladenova@abv.bg

Received: July 16, 2014.

Accepted: November 11, 2014.

### ABSTRACT

The aim of the paper is to present some problems related to the present situation of the Banat Bulgarian Language spoken in Romania. After 1943 the literary tradition of the Banat Bulgarians was interrupted. Printed media stopped functioning, the language was not taught in schools and its function was limited to liturgy and everyday oral communication. The revival of this micro language started in 1989 with the introduction of changes in the social, political and cultural life of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. This paper analyses the dynamics of the language and studies the extent to which processes of globalisation and internationalisation reflect its lexics. The main source used for observation and conclusions are the periodical “Náša glás” and “Literaturna miselj”, published after 1989.

**Keywords:** Banat Bulgarian Language, sociolinguistic situation, internationalisms, neologisms, loan words.

### 1. Introduction

Over the last few decades, the questions relating to the internationalisation of the Slavic languages have been repeatedly discussed at a number of fora, and the number of publications analysing them has seen a constant increase (e.g. Bosák, 1999, 2003, Rangelova, Tichá 2003, among others). Most authors define internationalisation as a universal trend stamping its mark on all languages to one degree or another; it has also been observed that since the 1990s it “has become global while shaking the Slavic languages out of their status quo with unusual intensity, or even aggression” (Bosák, 2003: 5). Slavic microlanguages have not been passed over by this current, either. For nearly 40 years, a great deal of systematic research in this field has been carried out by and markedly associated with Aleksandr D. Dulichenko (Dulichenko, 1981, 2003-2004, 2006). Dulichenko used the term *literary microlanguage* to designate “such a form of an existing language (or dialect), which has been used in written texts and is characterised by normalising trends emerging as a result of the functioning of the literary writing form within the framework of a more or less organised literary and linguistic process” (Dulichenko, 2006: 27). According to Balowska, among the key criteria for distinguishing micro- from macrolanguages are the number of users, the degree of normalisation achieved by the language code, as well as the extent of its polyvalence (Balowska, 1999: 43).

Against the backdrop of multiple studies into the issues around the internationalisation of Slavic languages, the number of those concerning literary microlanguages is insignificant (Dulichenko, 1997: 213-229). There are plenty of reasons for this, but several are worth pointing out: the historic transience of some of these languages, their unstable sociolinguistic position, their ambiguous linguistic norm, as well as the fact that they still lie in the margins of researchers’ interest.

This paper will focus on the processes of internalisation seen in Slavic literary microlanguages by presenting a few observations in this field. As each one of these

languages has existed in its own unique situation, which makes for the poor credibility of generalisations, we shall focus on the language of the Banat Bulgarian Catholics currently living in Romanian territory. Dulichenko's geographically-based classification of the Slavic microlanguages describes this one as an 'island' form, i.e. existing in an alien linguistic environment, isolated from its "root-language"; in genetic terms Dulichenko defined it as Bulgarian (Dulichenko, 2006:31, 34). The Banat Bulgarians are carriers of archaic Bulgarian (Paulician) dialects from the late 17th century. Bulgarian linguistics has seen their language as the second codified form of Bulgarian, existing as a regional norm (Stoykov, 1967: 6).

## 2. Who are the Banat Bulgarians?

They are the descendants of Bulgarian Catholics from the western and central parts of northern Bulgaria. The quashing of the 1688 uprising against the Ottoman Empire<sup>1</sup> set off the process of their emigration in several waves between 1688 and 1730 to the Habsburg monarchy. After a succession of resettlements they finally took up residence in the multiethnic region of Banat where they started a life either in separate communities or interspersed among Hungarians, Croats, Germans, Serbs, Romanians, Slovenians, etc. Banat stayed within the Austro-Hungarian Empire until 1919, and thereafter was split, with its northern part apportioned to Romania, and the southern one – to Serbia<sup>2</sup>. The more compact living descendants of these Bulgarians in Romania are currently concentrated in several villages: Stár Bišnov (Dudeştii Vechi in Romanian), Vinga, Denta, Deta and a few others. According to various sources, their number varies between 17500 and 14368 while official data from the 1992 census quoted the number of 7735 (Romania si minoritatile 1997). Between 1738 and 1866 the official language in Banat was German; in the period 1867-1920 it was Hungarian as the area became part of Hungary; shortly after World War I (in 1920) Banat's northern part was handed over to Romania, and Romanian has been the official language for the Bulgarians living in those lands ever since. Each of these languages has left its mark on the lexical system of the Banat dialect either through loanwords or calques; international vocabulary has also penetrated its vocabulary through their mediation (Stoykov, 1968: 9-17).

## 3. The Banat literary microlanguage

The written tradition of the Banat Bulgarians emerged in 1851 with the translation of the Small Catechism by Imre Berecz (Berecz, 1851), but it was only recognised as a literary language with the 1866 publication of the normative grammar by Jozu Rill (Rill, 1866). Unlike the national language of Bulgaria, its Banat version was codified in the Latin alphabet. Over the period 1851-1943, Banat Bulgarian saw 77 editions of 54 books as well as the publication of 31 calendars, four newspapers, 435 fiction and non-fiction works (as supplements to periodicals or calendars rather than as separate books), liturgical literature, history brochures, etc., "with none of the authors having visited Bulgaria or been in command of the literary Bulgarian language" (Telbizov, 1984: 131). Nearly 150 years of written

---

<sup>1</sup> Known in history as the Chiprovo Uprising named after Chiprovtsi, the town where it first flared.

<sup>2</sup> The sociolinguistic situation of the Banat Bulgarians in Serbia remains outside the focus of this study.

tradition were broken between 1943 and 1990 when publishing books or periodicals in Banat Bulgarian was proscribed, and the language was only used in the church as well as in day-to-day spoken communication among its carriers.

Its brisk revival started after the fall of the Ceausescu regime in Romania on 22 December 1989 and all the democratic changes in Central and South-Eastern Europe. The first issue of *Náša glás*, the so far longest published newspaper of the Banat Bulgarians, was born on 11th January, 1990. Today the language is being used in poetry, fiction, historical and religious literature, memoirs, folklore collections, literature anthologies, almanacs, calendars, prayer books, etc. Apart from printed publications, Banat Bulgarian has penetrated virtual communication as well. The first Internet blog in this language is already a fact, with part of the literature heritage of the Banat Bulgarians already loaded in the website's virtual library. The site currently boasts 81 books, split into several topics or genres: religion, history, calendars, essays, poetry, fiction, manuscripts, photographs, etc. Stár Bišnov (Dudeștii Vechi), the biggest Bulgarian settlement in the Banat area, has its own website. The Banat Bulgarians have their own shows on the Romanian national channels TVR 3 and TV Arad (in both since 2009) as well as on Radio Timișoara (since 1990).

Periodicals play an especially important role in the life of Banat Bulgarians, represented by three papers – *Náša glás*, *Isusvata svetlus* and *Bišnovska nuvina* – and the a literary magazine *Literaturna miselj* (Mladenova, 2012: 195-204)

The restoration of the Banat literary microlanguage has taken place amidst political, social and cultural dynamics that have given a strong push towards the adoption of new words and expressions and the ensuing internationalisation of its vocabulary.

We shall comment on several aspects of this process:

- Linguistic policies and principles regulating the adoption of new vocabulary;
- Thematic groups with a higher penetration of loanwords or calques;
- Ways of acquiring new words and adaptation models.

Our analysis and conclusions are based on material gathered from the *Náša glás* (Our Voice) paper (started in 1990, 520 issues were out by the time of writing this paper) and *Literaturna miselj* (Literary Thought) magazine (started 1992, 152 issues so far). This choice is based on the fact that these are the longest running publications of the Banat Bulgarians, which allows a more systematic tracing of lexical mutations over a period of two decades. These two periodicals can be regarded as continuations of the tradition laid down back in 1881 with the first Banat Bulgarian newspaper *Vinganska Narodna Nuvala* (Monev 1976:33) and discontinued on 20 September 1943 when *Banátsći balgarsći glásnič* put out its last issue (Telbizov 1984:137). Our observations below are just a preliminary probe into trends which deserve a more thorough investigation.

#### 1. Linguistic policies and principles regulating the adoption of new vocabulary.

Unlike national literary languages, where linguistic policies are planned and supervised by officially authorised institutions, microlanguages are managed mostly by individual members of the local community's intelligentsia. Longer lasting periodicals create chances for a more sustainable linguistic policy, synergising the work of writers, reporters or editors, and affecting the direction that a literary microlanguage might take. Both periodicals have exhibited a more or less sustainable policy as regards the language they use, and it manifests itself at two levels – educational and practical.

The educational one has been based on the assumption that the overall linguistic competency of the readership must be elevated for the sake of mustering a proper debate about the language and its development under the new circumstances. A number of publications in both the paper and the magazine focus on the quality of Banat Bulgarian as well as the competence of its speakers. For instance, *Náša glas* has published: *Hurtuvan i pismen jazić* (spoken and written language), *Na kasu za jazika, pismenustta i verata* (briefly about language, writing and faith), *Zašto ij dubre da pišimi na naša májcin jazić* (why is it good to write in our mother tongue). A separate section titled *Jazić i kultura* (language and culture) in *Náša glas* informs its leadership what kind of discipline linguistics is and what branches it has (e.g. the article *Lingvistikata, Leksikologijata*). *Náša glas* also discusses spelling-related issues in special features like *Gá i zašto pišim s krájin „t”* (why and when we write ‘t’ at the end of the word). The paper’s series titled *Za proizhoga (etimologijata) na hurtite* (on the origin /etymology/of words) alphabetically presents the origin of some words from the language’s active or passive vocabulary. *Literaturna miselj* has a special *Lingvistika i grámatika* section designed to enlighten its readership on grammar and spelling matters.

The practical aspect of linguistic policy is the unification of efforts among editors and writers while borrowing and adapting new words into the language.

In his 1866 normative grammar, Jozu Rill advised that while designating new concepts or objects words should be used “from Bulgarian lexical material, and only if that proves impossible, a borrowing should be made from the Croat language” (Stoykov 1967: 461).

Our own observations of the language used in *Náša glás* and *Literaturna miselj* have shown that both publications have largely followed the principle ‘to first borrow from Bulgarian lexical material’.

An editorial in *Náša glás* (2003, No. 5), entitled *Lingvistika i grámatika* discussing the new words coming into the language pointed out: „Ni škodi aku u banatsčija balgarsčipalčensčiji jazić ima vlijánija, uzájemevanjéta ud drugijije jazici, problemata ij či novite hurti, kujatu se uzájamevat, ni treba da udstarnevát hurti, kujatu gji ima udkole u tozi jazić.... nija računim, či gá néma u banatsčija balgarsčiji jazić idna hurta, po-priličnu ij da se uzájemi ud balgarsčija jazić i da se „pupalčēnstvuva”, ud kačetu da se dupusni da naflezi hurta ud drugji jazić... (There is nothing wrong if the Banat Bulgarian Paulician language sees influences and borrowings from other languages; yet the heart of the matter is that loanwords should not crowd out long existing words in this language .... We believe that every time Banat Bulgarian finds itself short of a word the more reasonable thing to do is to borrow it from Bulgarian and then ‘paulisize’ it rather than let in a word from another language...)

An article published in *Náša glás* under the title *Za Kiril i Metodij .... pu banátsčiji* (about Cyril and Methodius ... the Banat way) adopted the same attitude:

*Ud drugji vazgled ima takvizi novi hurti, kujatu gji nēmami u naša banátsčiji balgarsčiji jazić. Gá imami nužda ud nekuja takvazi hurta, ij normálnu da ja zēmimi ud knižovnija balgarsčiji jazić, ud kacétu ud drugijije jazici, zaštotu nija smi balgare. ....ij jáku nužnu da imami briga da ni si udstarnevami mlogu naša banátsčiji balgarsčiji jazić ud knižovni jazić. Či to knižovnija jazić na seku nácija ima glávnata cěl da uidinva sate stávve na nácijata. (On the other hand, there are words, which are absent in our Banat Bulgarian language. Every time we need a word like that, we are well-advised to borrow it from the literary Bulgarian language rather than from any other language as we are Bulgarian. (...)) It should be our great*

concern to avoid our Banat Bulgarian language drifting away from our literary language. This is what a literary language is mostly about: it unites all members of the nation.) (*Náša glás*, 10/2011: 6-7).

The geographic distance hampers direct contacts between Bulgarian and Banat Bulgarian speakers yet the World Wide Web enables the latter to have online access to Bulgarian newspapers, magazines, books, radio and TV shows as well as websites<sup>3</sup>. Children in settlements with more compact minority population study literary Bulgarian at school; even though most of them do not use it on a day-to-day basis, they are passively familiar with the core vocabulary. Articles and notices in literary Bulgarian are often published in the two periodicals we present here. This enables the use of Bulgarian lexical or syntactic models while borrowing international words, adopting loanwords or loan translations, or creating new words.

2. Thematic groups with higher penetration of loanwords or calques.

*Náša glás* and *Literaturna miselj* maintain with a high degree of consistency several columns dedicated to the following topic areas: current events (meetings, festivals, culture, religion, folklore, sports); fiction, poetry or other arts; news about computer or mobile technologies; culture and civilisation; schools and teaching; famous persons; Christian anthropology; history; archaeology; education; linguistics; psychology, etc.

These are the areas where the microlanguage has seen the most intensive penetration of new words or collocations.

1. Examples of international words and neologisms in culture, social life and the humanities: *apoteoz* (*apotheosis*), *fantázija* (*fantasy*), *identitet* (*identity*), *identičnost* (*identity*), *individuálnost* (*individuality*), *intelekt* (*intellect*), *redakcionna kolegija* (*editorial board*), *kinokámara* (*cine-camera*), *modernizácija* (*modernisation*), *inicijativa* (*initiative*), *poetesa* (*poetess*), *mass-media* (*mass-media*), *realiziran* (*fulfilled*), *socio-profesionálna gledna točka* (*social and professional perspective*), *redáktor* (*editor*), *rubrika* (*column*), *pseudonim* (*pseudonym*), *ekzempljár* (*copy*), *ese* (*essay*), *státija* (*article*), *definicija* (*definition*), *civilizovan* (*civilised*), *hronologičesći* (*chronological*), *etničesći* (*ethnic*), *esencija* (*essence*), *profesija* (*profession*), *etiketa* (*label*), *profesionalis* (*a professional*), *lokaliziranje* (*localisation*), *arheologičesći* (*archaeological*), *identificiran* (*identified*), *koncepcija* (*concept*), *keramični fragment* (*ceramic fragments*), *agresija* (*aggression*), *etnografsći* (*ethnographic*), *sociologičesći* (*sociological*), *psihologičesći* (*psychological*), *antropologičesći* (*anthropological*), *lokaliziran* (*localised*), *evoljucionna* (*evolutionary*), etc.

2. International words and neologisms in the field of economics, law and politics:

*administrativnu právu* (*administrative law*), *administrácija* (*administration*), *daržávni i právni nauki* (*government and legal studies*), *političesći, ikonomičesći i sociálni nauki* (*political, economic and social sciences*), *sponzor* (*sponsor*), *bránd/produkt* (*brand/product*), *firma* (*firm*), *fáza* (*phase*), *sferata na finánsite* (*the area of finance*)

*Više učilište za ikonomičesći i sociálni nauk* (*Higher School of Economics and Social Sciences*), *lansirva* (*promote*), *korporácija* (*corporation*), *budžet* (*budget*), *industrijálin* (*industrial*), *direkcija* (*directorate*), *investiciji* (*investments*), *industrija* (*industry*), *ekonomičesći potencijal* (*economic potential*), *import* (*import*), *eksport* (*export*),

<sup>3</sup> It is not insignificant either that after 1990 some Banat Bulgarians went through the Bulgarian University system and have a full command of the literary Bulgarian language.

*administrácija (administration), fondácija (foundation), etc.*

3. International words and neologisms in the fields of engineering, technology and ICT: *električeska (electrical), tehničeska (technical), avtomatizácija (automation), baziran (based), instalirvati/instalirvanjé (install/installation), hardware (hardware), software (software), program (programme), programator (programmer), programirvanji (programming) online (online), web ádres (web address), browser (browser), smartphone (smartphone), tvard disk (hard disk), USB port (USB port), visoći tehnologiji (high technology), digitálin (digital), joystick (joystick), dizájn (design), interfejs (interface), operacionni sistemi (operating systems), procesor (processor), mouse or miška (mouse), konfigurirvanjé (configuration), mreža (network), mrežova plátka (network interface card), gateway-a i DNS-a (gateway and DNS), opcija (option), internet-kafeta (internet cafes), mrežovi igri (network games), multiplayer (multiplayer), modificiran projekt (modified design), interfejs (interface), administrator na mreža (network administrator), administrator na sistemi (systems administrator), info designerete (info designers), programatorete (programmers), zvučna karta (sound card), chat (chat), e-mail (email), chat-room (chat room), elektronen format (electronic format), baziran (based), operacijonna sistema (operating system), open source (open source), browser (browser), digitalin dokument (digital document), versija (version), distribucija (distribution), multi-user (multi-user), internet provájdere (Internet service provider), monitor (monitor), printer (printer), mikrofon (microphone), piksel (pixel), skaner (scanner), elektronna pisálka (stylus), digitalin signál (digital signal), analogov signál (analog signal), kompresiran (compressed), web-starna (website), kurs baziran na e-mail (web-based training course), chat ali diskusionni grupi (chat or discussion groups), etc.*

### **New words in the microlanguage – patterns of penetration**

It is not easy to identify the language of mediation for quite a few international terms, which penetrated Banat Bulgarian during the last two decades, as studying the periodicals does not tell us whether a word had already been adopted by the spoken language during the spell without writing. Inasmuch as Banat Bulgarian was only used in its spoken form in day-to-day communication and for liturgical needs throughout the period 1943-1990, it can safely be assumed that its lexical system remained relatively conservative and isolated from international vocabulary. Analysing the origins of vocabulary in Banat speech, Stoykov pointed out (1967: 461):

The pattern of enrichment for the vocabulary of literary languages is so much different to the one for dialects. Words penetrate the latter in an elemental way, and this process is governed by fairly specific cultural or historic circumstances. On the other hand, in literary languages (...) a substantial part of new adoptions comes as a consequence of deliberate interference by certain individuals and through selecting the means of expression based on theoretical concepts striving towards linguistic purity, correctness, universal access, etc.

Our study of the two periodicals helped as outline a few approaches deployed by their editors in enriching and updating the Banat microlanguage.

#### **1. Adaptation of texts from official Bulgarian**

Through the adaptation of various texts from the bigger language, Banat Bulgarian

borrowed hitherto unknown words – mostly in the areas of culture, social sciences and IT – as well as collocations, work-making patterns or even whole syntactic constructions.

Here are a few examples:

*Nipridvidimata, paradoksalna logika na poetičeskata fantázija (kačétu u nekuja ud publicističnite tvorčestva na Botev) ud novu predlága máj nadrealistični videnjéta.* (Непредвидимата, парадоксална логика на поетическата фантазия (както е в някои от публицистичните творби на Ботев) отново предлага май надреалистични видения. (Hristo Botev-čeleka- revoljucioner, poeta publicista L.M., 2006, бр.10, с. 6)

*Na 1 juli t.g. ij počnala registrácijata za XII-ta edicija na konkursa BG Sájt 2001, kujatu za tráji du 30 september. Sekuj, kojtu žéli, moži da se zapiši sás sájt u kategorijite: Bánči i finansi; Elektronin magazin i sájtve za pazaruvánji; Korporativin sájt; Obrazovánie, nauka i kultura; Online uslugji; Publična administrácija; Obštnusti; Mediji; Ličín blog/sájt; Startup (za mladéža du 25 gudini). Za paruv pač moži da se učástva i u konkursa BG Site MIXX Awards, kojtu uklučva tri kategoriji: Pozicionirvanji i razpuznávvanji na bránd; Lansirvanji na nov bránd/produkt; Eksperimentálna i inovativna kampánija.* (NG 2011, 13, s.11) (Основната регистрация в конкурса БГ Сайт 2011 започна на 1 юли и ще приключи на 30 септември. Дванадесетото издание на надпреварата ще протече под мотото „Без граници“. Желеещите да се включат в надпреварата чрез основната регистрация могат да участват със сайтове в категориите: Банки и финанси; Електронен магазин и сайтове за групово пазаруване; Корпоративен сайт; Образование, наука и култура; Онлайн услуги; Публична администрация, Общности, Медии; Личен блог/сайт; Startup. За първи път конкурсът съвместно с IAB пуска категория BG Site MIXX Awards, която включва три категории: Позициониране и разпознаваемост на бранда; Лансиране на нов бранд/продукт; Експериментална и иновативна кампания. ([http://computerworld.bg/36438\\_zapochna\\_osnovnata\\_registraciya\\_v\\_bg\\_sajt\\_2011&ref=also](http://computerworld.bg/36438_zapochna_osnovnata_registraciya_v_bg_sajt_2011&ref=also)).

*Pravitelstvotu na Južna Koreja ij zajavilu, či za investira više ud 2 miljárda dolara i razrabotvanjétu na digitálni knjigi, kujatu treba izcelu da zamestat klasičesčite hartijeni učebnici du 2015 gudina* (Правителството на Южна Корея обяви, че ще инвестира над 2 млрд. долара в разработката на дигитални книги, които трябва изцяло да заместят класическите хартиени учебници до 2015-та година), etc.

Adaptation/intralinguage translation has been used to represent works of literature or biographies of writers and poets, reports about political or cultural events, personalities, IT news, etc.

2. In 1995 *Náša glás* offered a special *Glossary* column where incoming international words were explained. Bulgarian terminology, which was unfamiliar to the Banat microlanguage speakers, was also covered. The column gave definitions to more than 300 words.

International words: *antonim, konflikt, efkásin, astigmatizam, katedrála, oftamolog, dizident, konvencija, kapitulirvam, dinastija, migrena, filantropija, kompetentnost, žest, žurnalistika, muskul, sejf, perspektiva, potencijálin, kazino, kompánija, kontakt, ekipiran, narkotik, lider, potencijálin, relikva, kapitulirvam, kontákt, ekipiran, forsirvanji, forum, riskuvam, mentalitet, endogamija, tendencija, etnologija, ajsberg, jurisdikcija, apartament* и др.

From the official Bulgarian language: *različitelin, badeštu, čužd, nahluvanji, vapros,*

*prohod, obsáda, razvalnuvan, pristáništu, krasota, bláгодарja, sleda, proizvod, megdán, tárgaš, sdružénji, gostupriemin, vni mátilin, teglilu, poslovica, govor* и др.

### 3. Penetration of international words through online sources

Most of the neologisms and international borrowings, predominantly related to the ICT world, infiltrate Banat Bulgarian through online sources. In this area, the microlanguage seems to follow the borrowing patterns of mainstream Bulgarian. Here is what Kina Vachkova had to say about the latter: “Some loanwords are so fast in penetrating the receiving language that they retain their English spelling while being featured in Bulgarian texts, and users don’t even bother to transliterate them.” (Vachkova 1999: 60).

Some of this terminology has been borrowed straight from English, with its original spelling and meaning: *online, web, server, browser, program, USB port, chat, e-mail, chat-room, multiplayer, procesor, smartphome, info design, joystick, multiplayer*, etc.

Sometimes their meaning is translated or explained in brackets or in a separate sentence.

For instance: *Fizičesíja materiál kojtu zapázva dátite se zvé storage medium (srdstvu za zapázvanji na dátite), a ustrojstvotu kujétu četé i zapisva dátite se zvé storage device (ustrojstvu za zapisvanji)* (The physical material storing the data is called a storage medium whereas the device, which reads and records data, is called storage device) *LM, 2004, 9, 11*

*Multitasking ij wazmožnustta da se rábuti sas po-više prográme na idnaš.* (Multitasking is a pattern of working with more than one programme at the same time) *LM, 2004, 12, 10.*

*Hostname /imetu na stácijata/.* (Hostname/the name of the station.)

These loanwords typically undergo some sort of morphological adaptation by working out versions incorporating the Bulgarian definite article and plural forms.

For example: *gateway-a, DNS-a, bootloade-a, desktop-a*, with the article’s end-morpheme hyphenated, which is evidence of the still low degree of adaptation into the microlanguage system.

Most of the newly adopted international words exhibit a partial phonetic, graphic and morphological adaptation of the type: *grafičijánete, programatorete, instalirvanjé, kompjuter, internet-kafeta. memorija, konfigurirvanjé, fajl /fajlete/, modifíciran projekt, operacionni sistemi, dizájn, digitálin, grafična plátka, grafičín installer, operacionna sistéma, kofigurirvanjéto na desktop-a na mrežata, komándna linija*, etc.

Loan translations are a frequently used model, where calques can be partial (with one component of the collocation being translated whereas the other is simply adapted to the lexical norms of the microlanguage), e.g. *tvard disk, zvučna karta, mrežova plátka, zvuková plátka, visoči tehnologiji* or full, e.g. *mrežovi igri, miška, komándna linija, administrator na mreža*, etc.

These observations have certainly not covered all the fascinating aspects in the dynamic evolution of the Banat Bulgarian vocabulary in early 21st century, but they provide sufficient grounds for several preliminary conclusions:

- The Slavic literary microlanguages have not been isolated from the global processes and mutations in the lexical systems of mainstream Slavic languages.
- The lack of official authorities tasked to regulate linguistic developments in microlanguages shifts this responsibility over to individual persons: hence, personality factors are much more important than it is for the evolution of national languages. The turbulence of the process as well as the substantial bulk of incoming new vocabulary puts to the test the



linguistic intuition and skill of micro language carriers to adapt new words in such a way as to prevent its identity and originality from slipping away.

- While analysing the process of internationalisation of literary Slavic microlanguages as expressed in the Yugoslav-Rusyn (or Ruthenian), Dulichenko pointed out that the key “source and model for the international vocabulary and collocations” in Ruthenian language is Serbo-Croatian, which takes over the role of the self-styled ‘filter language’ (Dulichenko 1997:219). The complicated sociolinguistic situation amid which the Banat language has been developing since its separation from the Bulgarian language area, the variety of linguistic influences it underwent throughout its history as well as the fact that the official language of the land – where it finds itself in an enclave situation – is not Slavic (unlike the Ruthenian situation in Vojvodina) give no reason to single out a filter language for international vocabulary. The study of *Náša glás* and *Literaturna miselj* has revealed two major trends:

1. The adoption of loanwords or loan translations from the international vocabulary tends to mostly utilise the phonetic, morphological and collocational resources of the microlanguage.

2. There is a substantial quantity of examples in the two periodicals of such borrowings where the literary Bulgarian language has stepped in as the filter language: the international vocabulary has penetrated Banat Bulgarian through it, by means of adaptation and intra-language translation.

These observations have also shown that the dynamic of the literary microlanguages’ lexical systems – influenced by linguistic globalisation and turbulent updates over the last few decades – deserves a more robust interest and consistent research, in terms of carrying out both individual microlanguage and comparative analyses, with the aim of outlining the patterns of development.

*I would like to express my frank appreciation to Mr Micky Markov, deputy editor-in-chief of Náša glás” and Literaturna miselj, for his kindness in giving me the opportunity to work with his personal archive containing newspapers and journals written in the Banat Bulgarian language.*

## REFERENCES

- Вачкова, К. (1999). Интернационализационни процеси в българския език от края на XX век. In: J. Bosák (Ed.), *Internacionalizácia v súčasných slovanských jazykoch: za a proti*. Bratislava, Slovakia: Veda, 59-66.
- Дуличенко, А. Д. (1981). Славянские литературные микроязыки // *Сов. славяноведение*, 3, 86-98.
- Дуличенко, А. Д. (1997). Вопросы интернационализации в славянских литературных микроязыках. In: Л.Н. Смирнов (Ed.), *Тенденция интернационализации в современных славянских литературных языках*. Москва, Руска федерация: Институт славяноведения и балканистики РАН, 213-229.
- Дуличенко, А. Д. (2003-2004). *Славянские литературные микроязыки: образцы текстов* / Кол. авт. Тарт. ун-т, Каф. слав. филологии. Тарту, Эстония: Изд-во Тарт. ун-та, т. 1-2, 420, 398.

- Дуличенко, А. Д. (2006). Современное славянское языкознание и славянские литературные микроязыки. In: А.Д. Дуличенко, С. Густавссон, Д. Данн (Ed.), *Славянские литературные микроязыки и языковые контакты: Материалы международной конференции, организованной в рамках Комиссии по языковым контактам при Международном Комитете славистов*. 15-17 сентября 2005 г. Тарту, Эстония: *Slavica Tartuensia VII*, 22–46.
- Младенова, М. (2012). Периодичният печат на банатските българи от края на XX и началото на XXI век. In: М. Младенова (Ed.), *Славистиката в глобалния свят – предизвикателства и перспективи*. Благоевград, България: Университетско издателство „Неофит Рилски”, 195-204.
- Монев, П. (1976). Периодичният печат на банатските българи. *Български журналист*, 5, 32-35.
- Стойков, Ст. (1967). *Банатският говор*. София, България: Издателство на БАН.
- Стойков, Ст. (1968). *Лексиката на банатския говор*. София, България: Издателство на БАН.
- Телбизов, К. (1984). Банатската българска книжнина. *Литературна мисъл*, 2, 132-137.
- Berecz, I. (1851). *Manachija kathehismus za katholicsanske Paulichiane*, Pisal Imre Berecz, misnik, Štámpal ij Jos. Beichel u Timišvár.
- Bosák, J (2003). Procesy internacionalizácie dnes. *Jazykovedný časopis*, 54, 1-2, 3-5.
- Bosák, J.(Ed.) (1999). *Internacionalizácia v súčasných slovanských jazykoch: Za a proti*. Bratislava, Slovakia: Veda.
- G. Balowska (1999). Mikrojęzyki literackie. *Socjolingwistyka*, XVI, 41-49.
- Rangelova, A, Tichá, Z. (Ed.) (2003). *Internacionalizmy v nové slovní zásobě*. Sborník příspěvků z conference. Praha, ČR: ÚJČ AV.
- Rill J. (1866). *Bålgårskutu právuipísanji. Sas idná navíska. – U Péšta, Hungary*, VIII, 48.
- Romania si Minoritatile: colectie documente* (1997). Bucuresti, Romania: Editura Pro Europa.

#### REFERENCES IN ROMAN SCRIPT (ISO 9)

- Vachkova, K. (1999). Internacionalizacionni procesi v b'lgarskija ezik ot kraja na HH vek. In: J. Bosák (Ed.), *Internacionalizácia v súčasných slovanských jazykoch: za a proti*. Bratislava, Slovakia: Veda, 59-66.
- Dulichenko, A. D. (1981). Slavjanskije literaturnije mikrojazyki // *Sov. slavjanovedenie*, 3, 86-98.
- Dulichenko, A. D. (1997). Voprosy internacionalizacii v slavjanskijh literaturnyh mikrojazyках. In: L.H. Smirnov (Ed.), *Tendencija internacionalizacii v sovremennyh slavjanskijh literaturnyh jazыkah*. Moskva, Ruska federacija: Institut slavjanovedenija i balkanistiki RAN, 213-229.
- Dulichenko, A. D. (2003-2004). *Slavjanskije literaturnije mikrojazyki: obrazy tekstov / Kol. avt*. Tart. un-t, Kaf. slav. filologii. Tartu, Estonija: Izd-vo Tart. un-ta, t. 1-2, 420, 398.
- Dulichenko, A. D. (2006). Sovremennoe slavjanskoe jazыkoznanie i slavjanskije literaturnije mikrojazyki. In: A.D. Dulichenko, S. Gustavsson, D. Dann (Ed.), *Slavjanskije literaturnije mikrojazyki i jazыkovye kontakty: Materialy mezhdunarodnoj konferencii, organizovannoj*

- v ramkah Komissii po jazykovym kontaktam pri Mezhdunarodnom Komitete slavistov. 15-17 sentjabrja 2005 g. Tartu, Estonija: Slavica Tartuensia VII, 22-46.
- Mladenova, M. (2012). Periodičnijat pečat na banatskite b"lgari ot kraja na HH i nachaloto na HHI vek. In: M. Mladenova (Ed.), *Slavistikata v globalnija svjat – predizvikatelstva i perspektivi*. Blagoevgrad, B"lgarija: Universitetsko izdatelstvo „Neofit Rilski”, 195–204.
- Monev, P. (1976). Periodičnijat pečat na banatskite b"lgari. *B"lgarski zhurnalist*, 5, 32-35.
- Stojkov, St. (1967). *Banatskijat govor*. Sofija, B"lgarija: Izdatelstvo na BAN.
- Stojkov, St. (1968). *Leksikata na banatskija govor*. Sofija, B"lgarija: Izdatelstvo na BAN.
- Telbizov, K. (1984). Banatskata b"lgarska knizhnina. *Literaturna mis"l*, 2, 132-137.
- Berecz, I. (1851). Manachija kathehismus za katholicsanske Paulichiane, Pisal Imre Berecz, misnik, Štámpal ij Jos. Beichel u Timišvár.
- Bosák, J (2003). Procesy internacionalizácie dnes. *Jazykovedný časopis*, 54, 1-2, 3-5.
- Bosák, J.(Ed.) (1999). *Internacionalizácia v súčasných slovanských jazykoch: Za a proti*. Bratislava, Slovakia: Veda.
- G. Balowska (1999). Mikrojęzyki literackie. *Socjolingwistyka*, XVI, 41-49.
- Rangelova, A, Tichá, Z. (Ed.) (2003). Internacionalizmy v nové slovní zásobě. Sborník příspěvků z conference. Praha, ČR: ÚJČ AV.
- Rill J. (1866). Bâlgârskutu právuipísanji. Sas idná navíska. – U Péšta, Hungary, VIII, 48.
- Romania si Minoritatile: colectie documente* (1997). Bucuresti, Romania: Editura Pro Europa.