

Atlas Linguarum Europae

ALE Presidency

ALE Central Secretariate
Romanian Academy



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Minutes of the 40th Editorial Board Meeting, Struga April 18th – 22nd, 2007

In the period 18th – 22nd April 2007 there took place in Struga, in The Republic of Macedonia (Research Center for Areal Linguistic, Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Art) the work reunion of The Editorial Board from *Atlas Linguarum Europae* (ALE).

At the organised reunion in Struga the following attended:

Nicolae Saramandu, ALE president, the members of The General Secretariate formed by Manuela Nevaci, Ph.D and Carmen Radu, Ph.D student, the ALE members: Mrs. Gunhild Aamodt, Mrs. Nelly Blanchard, Mrs. Carmen Bordón Martinez, David Clement, Arnold Dalen, Ignacy Doliński, Mrs. Natalia Donadze, Pavel Grytsenko, Enver Hysa, Aleksandar Loma, Seit Mansaku, Marjan Markovič, Mrs. Isabel Molina Martos, Mrs. Helmi Neetar, Mrs. Vilja Oja, Mrs. Leena Sarvas, Mrs. Milena Šipková, Mrs. Jožica Škofic, Gjovalin Shkurtaj, Agris Timuška, Mrs. Zuzana Topolinjska, Arjen Versloot, Mrs. Jadwiga Waniakova and Petar Atanasov, Gajdova Ubavka and Veselinka Zabroska, linguists from The Republic of Macedonia.

The opening speech was held by Nicolae Saramandu, the president of ALE .

Nicolae Saramandu presented the situation of the publishing of ALE's volumes, the difficulties regarding the graphic execution of maps, problems regarding

digitalisation, the ALE web site and the possibility of obtaining material for future maps. The president underlined that the main concern is to assure the project's continuity in the future by means of attracting young co-workers, who would be authors of maps and linguistic commentaries.

The opening session from the 19th of April began with the presentation *New Projects at The Research Centre for Areal Linguistics* (Skopje, The Republic of Macedonia), presentation that was made by the Headmaster of the Centre, Mrs. S. Topolinjska and by the Deputy Director, M. Markovič.

The Centre was founded in 2000. One of the centre's projects is the first morphological volume of *The Slavic Linguistic Atlas*, volume that was issued in Skopje (2007) with the help of Pole linguists. The second important project of the Centre is *The Macedonian Dialectological Atlas*, whose questionnaire has already been published. At present, dialectological inquiries recorded in the 40's – 50's are digitalised at the Centre.

Marjan Markovič presented the publications issued at *The Research Centre for Areal Linguistics*.

The meeting continued with Nicolae Saramandu's introducing the new ALE co-workers, invited for the first time at the reunion in Struga: Mrs. Gunhild Aamodt (Norway), Mrs. Nelly Blanchard (France) and Ignacy Maciej Doliński (Poland).

The material for the ALE volume I, 8 is in the course of being finalised in order to be sent for final corrections to the National Committees and to the members of The Reading Committee.

The commentaries and the legends for the following maps are in final form: 138 *homme*, 139 *femme* (Timuška), 453 *famille*, 454 *parents*, 455 *père*, 465 *grand-père*, 467 *grand-mère* (Mrs. Brietz), and 462 *jumeaux* (Nartnik). The General Secretariate in Bucharest is waiting for the final version of the maps 469 *gendre* and 470 *bru* (Mrs. Donadze).

J. Škofic presented the way the font ZrCola can be used and she underlined the importance of this font in inserting letters and diacritics into the text. In the first place the font was used for Slovenian dialects and for the Slavic languages in order to edit the national atlases, but it can also be used for other languages. An old version of the font can be found on the internet. Another font, 05 SIMBola, a font that contains 2060 symbols

was presented and it was suggested that both fonts are useful for The Atlas of The European Languages.

The programme continued with the working session *ALE Digitalisation and web site*. The Committee for the ALE digitalisation (N. Saramandu, A. Versloot, J. Škofic, M. Nevaci, C. Radu) and other ALE members took part in this session.

A. Versloot presented the program for digitalising the maps, problems regarding the fonts' implementation and the phonetic description of the linguistic information.

The participants discussed the parallel realisation of both the digital and the printed form, taking into account editing the commentary in a short PDF version together with the developed form. They have underlined problems connected with *Poligrafico*, problems regarding the policy of the publishing house of having exclusive copyright on the printing material. At the same time the advantages of having the ALE in a digitalised version too were underlined. It was decided that the ones who started working on the lists for the 9th fascicle should wait for the new Excel style sheet. Regarding the maps' commentary, it stays the same.

M. Nevaci and C. Radu presented the web page of the project. There have been made proposals for completing the site with the following information:

- the list with the National Committees – the final ones, the others according to the situation in the 7th fascicle;
- the Excel style sheet (A. Versloot suggested a new model which is going to be sent via e-mail);
- technical suggestions for using the style sheet (A. Versloot);
- the minutes of the ALE reunions;
- the contents of the already published fascicles (I-VI);
- the ZrCola font;
- the e-mail addresses of the ALE co-workers (with their agreement).

In the session from the 20th of April the legends and the commentaries for the following maps from the 9th and 10th fascicles were presented in a preliminary version: N. Saramandu, M. Nevaci, C. Radu – 495 *cahier*; S. Watson - *puits*, 386 *cordonnier*, 499 *lettre* (S. Watson couldn't be present due to health problems and the material he had sent was lectured by D. Clement. It was established that the ones who attended the session

should send their observations via e-mail). The Croatian committee couldn't attend the reunion either, so there was no presentation for the maps 271 *l'aire*, 229 *fumer* and 216 *cimitiere*.

In the session from the 21st of April W. Waniakowa presented a preliminary version of the map 497 *crayon*. The preliminary version of the map 082 *plantain* couldn't be presented due to missing material.

Alexandar Loma raised the problem of the situation regarding the existence of the two different languages: Serbian and Croatian and the problem regarding the abbreviation used for ALE. Until a final decision is going to be taken, it was established that the current abbreviation *SerboCr.* should be replaced with the abbreviation *Serbo/Cr.* (the French variant *serbo/cr.*, the German variant *serbo/cr.*).

N. Saramandu read a letter that had been sent by M. Contini regarding the danger of disappearance of The Dialectology Centre in Grenoble. The ALE Editorial Board have sent two letters for supporting the Centre addressed to Mr. Jean-Michel Dion (Paris) and to Mr. Patrick Chézaud (Grenoble) signed by all the participants to the ALE reunion.

Mrs. Nelly Blanchard suggested that on the web site there should also be added a list of all the regional atlases from every country. Nicolae Saramandu mentioned that such a list already exists for the Romance languages and that it was renewed for the second volume of ALiR.

In the end of the ALE meeting the president of ALE, N. Saramandu, gave his warm thanks to the organisers, Mrs. Acad. Zuzanna Topolinjska and prof. Marjan Markovič, Ph.D, as well as to their co-workers, for the excellent working conditions offered to the participants.

The tour of Ohrid, Saint Clement and Saint Naum ended the ALE programme.

The 41st ALE Editorial Board Meeting will take place in Albania (Tirana) at the end of April or beginning of May 2008.

President,
Nicolae Saramandu

General Secretariate,
Manuela Nevaci
Carmen Radu