5th Baltic Student Conference: Bridges in the Baltics
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Abstracts
This paper is a part of my doctoral dissertation which focusses on city in literature. Present case study discusses representations of the city Kaunas in seven (postmodern and mainstream) novels of Lithuanian authors where this city is a significant element of depicted narrative world: Kunčinas Toula (1993), Everyday to the War (2002), Zingeris Round the Fountain, or a Little Paris (1998), Playing Dou (2002), Beresnevičius Parousia (2005), Fomina Yesterday we were on the island (2011) and Kunčius Dervish from Kaunas (2014). The choise of the object is based on few reasons: 1) the unique „biography“ of Kaunas city (temporary capital of Lithuania during interwar, though nowadays sometimes called a small, second city, province); 2) novel could be seen as a „seismograph of urban experience“ (Alter 2005).

The analysis of links between depicted city world and characters as well as the comparison of different experiences, voices and perspectives to the city (male and female, Lithuanian and Jewish, Kaunas and not Kaunas origins authors and characters etc.) helps to decode the miscellaneous and „mysterious discourse“ of a city (Calvino 1972) and to expose the effects of urban images in the world where a city has become inseparable from our personal, social and national life (Lehan 1998, Donald 2011, Keunen 2013).

Yan Lu
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The Teaching of the Baltic Languages in China

In 1954, China first started the Polish Language Program in Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU). In the following 60 years, programs of the other Baltic languages were also started successively. In 2011, the launching of Latvian language course in BFSU signified the overall teaching of the Baltic languages in China.

Most of the Baltic languages belong to the less-commonly-taught languages all over the world. Teaching materials and resources were relatively limited. However, with the great efforts of several generations of the teachers, the teaching of the Baltic languages has attained great results. Graduates have become “bridge” between China and Baltic countries, deepening the understanding and cooperation in the international communication.

The teaching of the Baltic languages in China traditionally focused on the language proficiency. However, with the appearance of new situations, the restriction to listening, reading, speaking and translating does not situable to the new requirements. Thus, the teaching of the Baltic languages in China now is experiencing reforms in curricula, organizational structure and so on.
Many discourse particles are grammatical homonyms with words from other parts of speech like adverbs, e.g. the adverb *tad* can be used as an adverb of time:

Tad mēs gājam prom.
Then we 1pl-go-pst away
‘Then we went away’

And it can also be used as discourse particle:

Ko tad tu no manis gribi?
What-acc pctl you from l-gen 2sg-want-prs
‘What do you want from me, then?’

Similarly, a number of discourse particles are homonyms with conjunctions, e.g. discourse particle *arī* can be used both as an additive particle or a conjunction. The meaning of additive particle *arī* is close to the meaning of another discourse particle *pat* ‘even’:

Pie manis atnāca visa ģimene, arī brālis.
At l-gen 3pl-come-pst whole family-sg-nom, also brother-sg-nom
‘The whole family came to my place, also (my) brother.’

The meaning of conjunction *arī*, however, is close to meaning of other conjunction *un* ‘and’:

Korī dzied māsa, arī brālis.
Choir-loc 3sg-sing-prs, also brother-sg-nom
‘(My) sister sings in the choir, also (my) brother.’

This report focuses on the meaning and usage that the homonymic conjunctions and discourse particles like *arī, gan, taču, tikai* etc. have in common.
Monika Bertašiūtė
BA Student (Philology, Pedagogy)
Vilnius University

The subject’s multifacetedness in Oscar Milosz’s poetry

Oscar Vladislas de Lubicz Milosz was a poet who did not fit into the traditional cultural boundaries of Lithuania or any other nationality. He described himself as a world citizen since he was both Polish-Lithuanian and French or a Lithuanian writing in French. Although there may be some critique toward his rambling writing style, the author creates a piquant, mystical, exotic and easy-flowing aristocratic language, representing a unique/renewed way of existential being. It is obvious, that the dominant alterations of lyrical subject’s identification and means of expression at the literary space/time may be the key to understanding Milosz’s poetry as a natural being, rather than a linguistic construct. Furthermore, at an early point in his life as a creator Milosz had met Oscar Wilde at the American bar, where they had discussed the essence of a "pure poetry". This may or may not be one of the reasons why Oscar Milosz's poetry is inspired to live by itself only in emotional, intuitive level and be comprehended without bright concepts of any nationality. From this point of view Oscar Milosz's and Oscar Wilde's some way narcissistic lyrical worldview correlate deeply. In fact, Lithuanian literary critic Vytautas Kubilius says that Oscar Wilde was fascinated by the esthetics of Milosz's poetry, so that lyrical rambling in some ways may be perfect expressions for the reader to understand subjects or his/her inner prince voice.

Žanna Razinkova
PhD Student (English Language & Culture)
University of Tartu

Discursive Definition of National Identity: A Study of Estonian and Canadian Civil Rights Documents and University Students’ Perceptions

The increase in intercultural interaction, cross-border economic, social and technological exchange that globalisation has brought along has had enormous impact on the perception of one’s national identity. To explain the changing condition of national identity the paper resorts to the fundamental laws of the countries and the perceptions of university students.

The paper studies how national identity is formulated in the fundamental laws of the countries studied: Constitutions and civil rights documents. The work compares the discursive definitions of national identity to find out to what extent different countries rely on ethnic and/or political definitions of national identity. The research introduces the ‘subjective’ aspects of the definition of national identity and on the basis of the qualitative interviews determines informants’ interpretations. The study examines whether there is a disparity between the formulations of national identity in the fundamental documents of the countries and Estonian (University of Tartu) and Canadian (University of Toronto) university students' interpretations.

Both corpora, the documents and the students’ attitudes, are analysed on the basis of the Discourse Historical Approach developed by Martin Reisigl and Ruth Wodak (2001 and 2009) that intends to incorporate knowledge about the history of the discursive event as well as socio-political field.
Miķelis Zeibārts  
MA Student (Estonian and Finno-Ugric Ling.)  
University of Tartu

Estonian and Latvian verb government comparison

Estonians and Latvians, who are interested in studying each other’s language, usually encounter several problems during language acquisition. One of these problems is verb governance. The paper presents an abridged version of my Master thesis of the same name, whose main aim was to study and compare analogous, similar and different verb governments in Estonian and Latvian, and explain how different verb governments are illustrated. To achieve this goal Estonian verbs with Latvian translations from the Latvian Language Agency's Estonian-Latvian dictionary (2015) are collected. After that the verbs are supplemented with relevant grammatical information from various sources, classified into several categories and analyzed on basis of analogy, similarity and difference. Verbs with no grammatical information are classified in other categories. The paper presents the research process used in the thesis, the basic principles of categorization as well as the results of the research, which includes 2146 Estonian-Latvian verb pairs. The paper presents the principles of Estonian and Latvian noun cases and their comparison to provide better understanding of the differences of verb governments. Several Estonian and Latvian examples showcasing verb government usage are included.

Keywords: Estonian, Latvian, verb, verb government, language contacts

Inga Mastina  
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Realistic Fiction in Contemporary Latvian Children's Literature

In today’s world parents and educators do not doubt the importance of reading and its impact on personality development. More and more authors in Latvia write for children. However, there is an age group that has been and still is being avoided in Latvian contemporary literature – eight to eleven year old children. Latvian authors mostly write fairy tales, fantasy, rhymes, poems, adventures of various animals and creatures, teenage fiction, but there is a lack of realistic fiction for above mentioned group, about the topics including cultural references, these children could identify with. There have been some attempts to write for this age group, however, the books have not gained the love of both children and parents.

The purpose of the paper is to explore what qualities and features a realistic fiction book should have in order to gain the acknowledgement of both eight to eleven year old children and their parents, and to detect the possible issues for contemporary Latvian authors when writing for this specific age group.

The following research tools – questionnaires, interviews, studies of various children books were used. A story for target age was then written, considering all theoretical aspects arising from this research.


Raquel Vieira Raggi  
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VMU, JGU, Stockholm University

**Work in Progress – Gender and Ethnic Identity (Re)Production in Narratives of Brazilian Women Living Abroad**

The experience of living in a foreign country brings people in contact with several discourses that can lead people to have an impact on the way they perceive themselves and others. In this situation, it is particularly interesting to observe how identity aspects are revisited and reconstructed.

As an attempt to track linguistic traces of this reconstruction, the first set of data collected in Lithuania for a research on narratives of Brazilian women living abroad will be presented with focus on the discursive means used to (re)produce ethnicity and gender identity discourses broadly accepted in home and host contexts.

The data consist on transcriptions of a semi-structured interview and field notes taken in a period of five months (from August to December 2016). The presentation of this ‘work in progress’ reveals how stereotypes of the home and host culture are taken up and rejected in specific situations, like instruments. These instruments play an ambiguous role, sometimes reinforcing, sometimes attenuating otherness in conversations with people in the host country.

The presentation also includes a brief commentary on the next steps of the research until the presentation of the final version as a Master Thesis for the Master in Sociolinguistics and Multilingualism.

Daria Alfimova  
BA Student (Lith. Language and Literature)  
St. Petersburg State University

**Compound nouns as a result of loan translation in modern Lithuanian**

This report deals with new compound words in Lithuanian and highlights the leading tendencies of their formation.

There are three types of compound words formation in Lithuanian. The first one is a typical compound (matching of two or more elements of basic stem and a word-building affix). The second is a blending (that gives compounds with unclear boundary between components of derived form), the third is a so called structural resemblance (which is more like wordplay, not wordbuilding).

The research of the Internet Database of Lithuanian Neologisms http://naujazodziai.lki.lt/ revealed that today loan translation is the leading way of new word formation for compounds. Some of typical compound words appear as untypical calques (*rinkotyra* ‘marketing’, *bendrakūra* ‘co-creation’, *rąstgula* ‘planking’, etc.).

Also, Lithuanian accepts English blend words and creates ones in a similar manner (*haktyvistas* ‘hacktivist’, *moksliometrija* ‘scientometrics’, *darbostogas* ‘worldiday’, etc.).

Structural resemblance usually operates with original words (*žiniasklaida* ‘mass media’ – *žiniaklaida* ‘misleading information by mass media’; *didvyris* ‘hero’ which is Pl. tantum – *didbobė* ‘heroine’, etc.).

The article containds the review of compound neologisms and the way of analysis of such words.
**Emilia Gieda**  
MA Student (Finno-Ugrian Philology)  
University of Warsaw

*Homosexuality in Vabandust, aga mis asja? by Ene Sepp*

The research looks at the portrayal of homosexuality in Ene Sepp's novel *Vabandust, aga mis asja* [Sorry, but – what?!; 2016]. The book deals with the story of a middle schooler Jane whose mother suddenly comes out as a lesbian. Because of her mother's sexuality Jane becomes the victim of homophobia even though she tries to hide everything from her classmates. The research aims to analyse attitudes towards homosexual people, and focuses on the results of homophobia in the development of a young person. As the book is dedicated to the readers in their youth, another focus of the research is the influence of literature in their perception of homosexuality.

Keywords: Estonian literature, homosexuality, homophobia, young adult fiction

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**Elina Pitkänen**  
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University of Oulu

*Language Discourses of Tallinn-Finns*

My presentation deals with discourses produced by Finns living in Tallinn on languages they use. I am interested in the roles of these languages in the everyday lives of Tallinn-Finns and which of them have identity building functions for their speakers. According to Statistics Finland, the immigration of Finns to Estonia has steadily increased over the past few years. Most of them settle in or around Tallinn. However, so far little research has been conducted on Estonia-Finns.

My research is based on semi-structured interviews recorded in Tallinn in October and November 2016. Out of the 13 informants 11 are women and 2 men. Their ages range from 21 to 69 years and they have lived in Tallinn 1.5 to 24 years. Altogether there is 9 hours and 7 minutes of recorded material.

The lexical and grammatical choices made by the informants are analysed using Norman Fairclough’s (1989) critical discourse analysis model to reveal discourses activated in their speech. In light of the data, Tallinn-Finns are multilingual as most of them use three languages in their daily lives. They speak Estonian or even English to stand apart from other Finns in Estonia.

Keywords: *language discourses, critical discourse analysis, Tallinn-Finns, Estonia-Finns*
Ilze Tālberga
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How many Latvian prefixed verbs are there?

Latvian prefixed verbs are one of the most difficult and complicated topics for Estonian students to comprehend and acquire. There are two reasons for that – first of all, Estonian lacks its own verb prefixes and second of all, students are not always sure, which of the 11 Latvian verb prefixes (aiz-, ap-, at-, ie-, iž-, no-, pa-, pār-, pie-, sa-, uz) should be used with which verbs. While studying Latvian, students must read Latvian texts, where they come across a lot of prefixed verbs. So I was interested in finding out, how many Latvian prefixed verbs there are? Also, the goal of the study was to analyze what the equivalents of those Latvian prefixed verbs are in Estonian. The study was based on three Latvian fiction books – Alberts Bels “Poligons” (1977), Nora Ikstena “Dzīves svinēšana” (1998) and Kristīne Želve “Meitene, kas nogrieza man matus” (2011) and their Estonian translations. The results show that most commonly verbs are derived by prefix no-, but the least – by prefix pār-. However, the most common prefixed verbs are actually lexicalized prefixed verbs: saprast ‘to understand’, palikt ‘to stay’, notikt ‘to happen’ etc.

In the presentation I will give a detailed overview of the results of the study.

Tímea Takács
PhD Student (Literary Studies)
Tallinn University, Eötvös Loránd University

Estonian and Hungarian Literary Connections in Juhan Sütiste and György Sárközi’s oeuvre

In my presentation, I would like to examine and compare two Finno-Ugric authors’ life and works from a transnational point of view.

Although Juhan Sütiste and György Sárközi lived in different cultures, they struggled with the same traumas. They both lived for exactly the same period of time (1899-1945) and both left a fragmented oeuvre behind them due to their martyrdom. As a result of inner conflicts, they both stood next to the workers and peasants. They rose their words for them, also by taking part in editing periodicals. One of their struggles led for forming their identity was in connection with their origin represented in their families’ name change for instance. In their poetry, they gradually turned to casual forms and themes, unveiling the traumas and hardships of everyday life and suspect the danger of fascism, too. They made experiments on different genres, not achieving the same success in them. They also turned to the historical past, to show the contradictions of their present era.

Applying contextual method, I am going to pay attention to the literary background and I am going to involve postmodern theories, therefore, my presentation is going to touch the topic of the collective, cultural memory as well.
Rafael Martin Calvo  
PhD Student (Linguistics)  
Ventspils University

**Evaluative morphology and evaluative affixation: Characteristics and conditions of Evaluative Forms**

A common feature of both Latvian and Spanish is the expression of subjective evaluation by means of synthetic affixation of lexical units. Through modification of a base word, speakers can easily imply features such as size and worth, as well as a wide range of positive or negative emotional affect (concern, desire, esteem, disdain, etc.). Such feature is recognizable in the wide use of diminutives in both languages, but it is also found in lexical units such augmentatives, pejoratives, melioratives, and attenuatives.

The main objective of this study is to offer a comprehensive description of evaluative morphology as a linguistic phenomenon by establishing the conditions for the characterization of ‘evaluative forms’. For the illustration of these concepts, the study compares and contrasts the different elements involved in Spanish and Latvian in terms of affixation and semantic nuance in evaluative forms.

Sanita Briežkalne  
PhD Student (Philology)  
University of Latvia

**Devotional literature and Moravian Brethren movement in Vidzeme**

In the 30ties of 18th century preachers of the Moravian Brethren movement came to Vidzeme. Under the influence of the ideas of the religious movement, in Vidzeme developed a strong tradition of Latvian handwritten literature, in the formation of which in the 18th century and the 1st half of 19th century got involved several thousand Latvian peasants of Vidzeme. They got engaged in the process of rewriting and creating of texts, and thus came into circulation original hernhutian compositions, revised translations and transcripts of various historical, biographical and religious genres, giving an insight into the conceptual context of the Moravian Brethren movement. Self-made handwriting books are related not only to the first known expression of the Latvian literary activity, but also with origins of formation of the Latvian intellectual elite in this period. The report will give an insight into one of the hernhutian literature genres – devotional literature – a part of Christian literature that was not intended for ritual purposes, yet was meant for individual reading and strengthening of spiritual growth of hernhutians.
**Primary Unofficial Urban Place Names of Vilnius in Language of Lithuanian Youth**

On the basis of the way unofficial urban place names are formed, unofficial names can be separated into primary and secondary. Unofficial urban place names derived irrespective of an official names are called primary names. The main goal of this work is to show what kind of primary unofficial urban place names of Vilnius are used in language of Lithuanian youth. According to contemporary research of onomastics, primary unofficial urban place names of Vilnius used in language of Lithuanian youth are also divided into two main groups: visual, for instance, *Arklys* ‘The Horse’ < *Paminklas LDK didžiajam kunigaikščiui Gediminui* ‘Monument to Grand Duke of Lithuania Gediminas’ and situational or associative names, for example, *Babynas* ‘The Group of Womens (ironically)’ < *Vilniaus universitetas* ‘Vilnius University’. The question is, how to interpret recreated unofficial urban place names, for instance, name of district *Šikinė* < *Šeškinė*, which are formally related with the basis of the official name, but functionally may be realised as primary names.

**Demonstrative Pronouns as Definite Articles and Changing Connotations in Latvian and Finnish Online Press**

The research is a part of an ongoing study of colloquial in Latvian and Finnish Press, its usage and motivation. The research was done in order to identify how the connotation changes when using different demonstrative pronouns as definite articles in both Latvian and Finnish online press. This subject had not until now been viewed in comparison of Latvian and Finnish.

In the theoretical part of the research results of other studies researching demonstrative pronouns in Latvian and Finnish were compiled. Based on that, common trends were identified. They were then compared to the results that were obtained by analyzing online press texts.

The research is still ongoing, but it is expected to be discovered that various demonstrative pronouns help expressing the attitude of the author in different ways. Moreover, it is expected that some demonstrative pronouns would give the text strong colloquial connotation, while others would help expressing definitness without an additional colloquial meaning. Based on the results, particular demonstrative pronouns are going to be divided into respective categories.

Keywords: Latvian, Finnish, Colloquial, Demonstrative pronouns, Definitness.
**The Reception of Jaan Kaplinski’s Poetry in Sweden before 1990**

The presentation gives an overview about the reception of Jaan Kaplinski’s three poetry collections translated into Swedish in the 1980’s. These collections, all translated by Ivo Iluste and Birgitta Göranson, are “Våra skuggor är mycket långa” in 1982, “Barn av vind och vatten” with Kaljo Põllu’s reps in 1987 and “Samma hav i oss alla” in 1988. The overview is based on the newspaper reviews written about the poetry collections in Sweden.

The second aim of this presentation is to analyse and compare the reception of Jaan Kaplinski’s poetry in Estonia and Sweden to examine the differences and universal qualities of his poetry and to see how much these qualities depend on the time and cultural situation of these countries.

In Sweden Kaplinski’s poetry collections have not been given out in the same following order as in the United States (1985/1987) or London (1990/1992) so the reception in Sweden is rather unique. All three collections in Swedish translation have been published by a small and highly appreciated publisher Fripress by Lennart Frick that specialized on the literature from small and less known nations and language areas. So, is Kaplinski’s poetry exotic for the Swedish reviewers or has it been recognized as universally understandable?

**Usage of Cute Character/Mascots in the Baltic Sea Region**

Cuteness as a general term refers to a type of attractiveness associated with the appearance of youth. Cuteness as a scientific concept was introduced by ethologist Konrad Lorenz (1943). Previous research into the perceptions of cuteness has largely lacked demographic and cultural diversity within its studies. This attraction to animals can be exploited by marketing executives in order to garner consumer interest for the purchase of their products or services. Brand mascots or characters contribute to brand identity, making the brand more memorable. Brand identity and its overall effect on memorability make consumers more likely to purchase these products (Kanungo 1969; Brown 2010).

The majority of research lacks a cross-cultural analysis, due to the general absence culture as a factor in the perception of cuteness. This presentation will provide a cross comparison between design and usage of character mascots within the Baltic Region. In analyzing the usage and preferences for character mascots in the Baltic Sea region both Viking Lines and Kalev have expressed interest in the creation of such a study and have provided images of their mascots for potential usage. This presentation will provide a precursory semiotic analysis of the design and usage of mascots in Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Sweden, Lithuania, and Poland.
**Milda Dailidėnaitė**  
MA Student (Finno-Ugric Linguistics)  
University of Tartu

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**Estonian Adessive and its translation into Lithuanian**

The talk is dedicated to the Estonian adessive case its functions and translating them. It gives a brief overview of the scholarly research of adessive (and the case itself, its significance) and introduces basic grammatical differences between one Baltic-Finnic language (Estonian) and one Baltic language (Lithuanian).

I will briefly describe the functions of the Estonian adessive based on examples in “Seltsimees Laps” by Leelo Tungal. The most common constructions, that adessive is used in, will also be introduced. Since the novel has been translated into Lithuanian, the translation is used to analyze the means of translating various functions of the Estonian adessive into Lithuanian.

The talk will be concluded by a quick comparison of means of expressing the same functions in Estonian and Lithuanian and introducing future research possibilities.

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**Agnė Bernotaitė**  
MA Student (Literature)  
Vilnius University

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**Ecological Consciousness in the Poetry of Marcelijus Martinaitis and Jaan Kaplinski**

In this presentation, based on the bachelor’s thesis, the work of both poets, essayists, scholars and translators Marcelijus Martinaitis (1936–2013) and Jaan Kaplinski (b. 1941) is analyzed as an integral phenomenon correlating with their attitude in the Soviet period. The holistic perception in which culture is seen as an activity consisting not only of restoration and continuation, but of conservation as well, gives an opportunity to explore their work using the concepts of deep ecology, indigenous culture and ecological consciousness. The presentation aims to reveal how the authors’ concepts of ecological consciousness manifest in their texts of different genres – poems, essays, interviews. The principles of ecocriticism provide this presentation with a methodological approach. The immanent and comparative analysis of the texts (particularly, of their poetry starting from the 1970’s) reveals their authors’ relation with indigenous culture, inherited tradition and other cultures, in which the sources of ecological thought are found, and with Soviet regime and its technocratic utopia as well. Even though Lithuanian and Estonian indigenous cultures have different origins, their traditional views on nature and spirituality greatly overlap. The final aim of this presentation is to highlight the dialogue between two poets and thinkers, revealing the shared identity and ecological consciousness.
Santa Liepiņa
MA Student (Baltic Sea Region Studies)
University of Tartu

*European Parliament member activism: the case of Baltic states*

The European Parliament (EP) nowadays plays a crucial role in every European country, because the laws that are implemented by this parliament are working also in our home countries. As every EU member state has their representatives, which are proportionally represented in the European Parliament, I would like to research how well these elected European Parliament Members, or MEPs, are representing the interests of their represented countries – in this case, Latvia and Estonia and Lithuania. In the European Parliament 8 MEPs represent Latvia, 6 MEPs Estonia and 11 MEPs – Lithuania. My aim for is to find out what is the activism of each European Parliament member that represents Estonia and Latvia and Lithuania. With several guidelines in mind I will try to find out from which of the three Baltic states MEPs are working more effectively. The comparison of MEPs will be provided as quantitative analysis of different parameters of activism and in the form of qualitative analysis consisting of interviews with the MEPs of the three Baltic countries.

Keywords: European Parliament; MEPs; Baltic countries

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Anastasiya Konovalova
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*Fine Points of Agreement in Lithuanian comparing to Russian*

There are some agreement points that cause doubts in both Russian and Lithuanian. For example, predicate allow agreement choices with such Russian subject as *shestero ‘group of six’*; it can take singular or plural agreement. Situation is the same in Lithuanian.

Agreement incorporates two grammatical units — *agreement controller* (a word or a block of words which determines the grammatical form of a dependent word) and *agreement target* (the determined component). Depending on whether the agreement is determined by the form or by the meaning syntactic and semantic resp. are distinguished.

The choice of agreement is affected by various factors such as word order, animacy of controller, the distance between controller and target and etc. The description of fine points is premised on what controller and target represent. Controller can be represented by quantifier phrases, conjoined noun phrases, comitative phrases, noun phrases with appositive and etc. Also controllers can be divided into inclining to both types of agreement and inclining to one type only. Targets can be coordinate attributives, copular verbs or nominal predicate.

Distribution of agreement factors is basically similar in Lithuanian and Russian.
Ekaterina Lazareva  
BA Student (Regional Studies, Fin./Engl.)  
Moscow State Linguistic University

Many peoples—one sea!

The Baltic Sea is a region of fruitful political and cultural cooperation and a center of common interests of nine states. The Baltic Sea connects all of them, and for those without a land border between them, it is the only possible way to cooperate.

The main aim of the research is to study the Baltic trade and cultural connections mostly within five Baltic countries: Estonia, Finland, Germany, Russia and Sweden. The time frame is confined to the XI-XVII centuries. The objectives of the research are as follows:

Firstly, to analyze trade unions and commercial binds taking place in the region. The object of my particular interest is the period of the Hanseatic League and its legal system as well as the medieval cartography of this region and the distinctive features of the Baltic Sea navigation.

Secondly, to analyze the intercultural exchange formed as a result of this economic cooperation.

On the whole, the study defines the degree of the economic and cultural influence these countries have had upon each other.

Goda Zovaitė  
BA Student (Philology)  
Vilnius University

Anthroposophical terms in Lithuanian and Latvian

Anthroposophy is a theosophy-derived branch of philosophy and anthropology, founded by the Austrian philosopher and esoteric Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925). Anthroposophy as a term was first used in 1879 by philosopher Robert Zimmermann in a Viennese trade school which Rudolf Steiner attended. The central research object of this science is man. Consequently, based on anthroposophical ideas, Waldorf education, medicine, biodynamic farming, eurythmics (art of expressive movement), architecture and art was developed. 20 years ago Steiner’s philosophy reached the Baltic States, specifically Lithuania and Latvia, which are discussed in this study. Translators of Rudolf Steiner’s written works have to find exact translations for German words that were invented or used in a new way by the author.

In this study, we focus on the potential creation of a system of anthroposophical literature terms by reviewing the translations of German terms to Lithuanian and Latvian, two Eastern Baltic languages. The terms are compared in-between these languages and including English, using comparative methodology. The research target of this study is the book How to know higher worlds (“Wie erlangt man Erkenntnise der höheren Welten?”, Steiner, 1905). The main goal of this research was to assess Lithuanian and Latvian translation strategies.
The social portrait of the orphan in Jugla’s orphanage in Riga (1921-1940)

The goal of the paper is to show the social portrait of the orphan-child in one of the biggest orphanages in Latvian capital city Riga during the interwar period. There were analysed approximately 150 personnel records of orphans in Riga. So far paper will deal with the social history, which pretends to be interdisciplinary. The main used methods are statistical method, historical analyses, actualization method. The paper will show why those orphans could not be nurtured in families, statistical data about their families, research about the future education of those orphans. Interesting moment was that there was a special examination on those orphans about the occupation that matches best with their personality, abilities, psychological background and interests. Because of that we can speak about high levelled institutionalized social responsibility in interwar Latvia, developed after WWI as a legislative heritage from the Russian Empire. Paper shows one Chapter from my Master’s thesis that is almost non-researched topic in Latvian historiography. One exception could be Latvian historian Jānis Riekstiņš. The paper is based on archival sources and periodicals.

Key words: orphanage in Riga, childhood history, social history, social studies

Internal and external discursive space in the Baltic region

In today’s world there are quite contradictory trends. On the one hand, there are factors that indicate the processes of globalization, the erasure of borders, cultural and national characteristics. On the other hand, more attention is paid to the problem of focusing on preserving the cultural, linguistic features, history and literature of a specific region or individual country. The Baltic region is no exception. Revival of interest in regional peculiarities is present in various spheres of social life. The most controversial is the sphere of discourse. Communicative space of discourse can be used both for integration and for dissociation of a specific community.

The peculiarities of the historical past of the Baltic countries, the relations with the Soviet space and the Western states, the features of development in recent years have left a certain imprint on the formation of certain socio-political and cultural groups, depending on the perception of the region itself, its specifications. The problems of constructing communication channels between these groups imply the necessity of using all the mentioned areas, which allow to present the Baltic region as an independent, unique and requiring a special approach in scientific research.
Solvita Štekerhofa  
PhD Student  
Ventspils University

Criminal Law Terms in Lexicographical Sources (17th–21st Century)

Translation of legal texts is considered one of the most complicated fields of translation, as the translator not only must know the foreign language and understand the linguistic contents of the text, but also have a good knowledge of legal language. When discussing terminology resources, one of the most crucial resources is dictionaries. The 16th century can be viewed as the beginning of conscious use of Latvian legal terminology, when the Flax-Weaver Statutes (Linaudēju statūti – Latv.) were translated into Latvian, although the traditional Latvian social system and relationships between members of the society were already reflected in folk-songs (Sinaiskis 1938: 119).

Explanatory and bilingual dictionaries for many fields are being published nowadays, but for many centuries field terms could be found in bilingual dictionaries. The first legal terms can be found in Georg Mancelius’s German-Latvian dictionary “Lettus” in 1638 which was intended for foreigners for acquiring the lexical minimum of Latvian. No legal term dictionaries were published up until the early 1920s. The first dictionary or glossary is Pauls Kreislers’s “Handbook for Learning and Using Latvian and a Collection of German-Latvian legal terms” (“Rokasgrāmata latviešu valodas apgūšanai un izmantošanai un vācu-latviešu juridiskās terminoloģijas vārdu krājums” – Latv.), published in 1923 (Štekerhofa 2016: 184). The aim of the research is to find criminal law terms in all dictionaries of the 17th–19th century and 20th–21st century dictionaries of field terms, namely, dictionaries of legal terms.

Anastasiya Antokhina  
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Christian unity in the Baltic variety

Religion, since it was established, has been considerably influencing the formation of society, its moral norms and values, likewise, society has been affecting the development of religion. The generally accepted culture has been getting some regional features.

The aim of this study is to trace the extension of Christianity in The Baltic Region and define cultural similarities in these countries.

There are several objectives for the research:

1) To study the peculiarities of Christianity expansion in Northern Europe, namely in Sweden;
2) To specify the role of crusades in adopting a new religion in Baltic States;
3) To define the features of applied arts, through the example of church building in Denmark.

This research will enable the assessment of the effect that Christianity has exerted on the formation of the common cultural space in The Baltic Sea Region, when many peoples live in harmony.
Concept for an integrated railway schedule in the Baltic States

Currently the railway network of the Baltic States lacks a proper connection to the railway networks of Central and Western Europe, due to the differences in railway gauges. The proposed Rail Baltica infrastructure project has the aim to improve the connection of the Baltic States to the other parts of the European Union by building a new standard gauge railway line from Warsaw to Tallinn. While this project, for sure, will have a positive impact on the travel times between the capitals, the question remains, how the Rail Baltica can also be beneficial for smaller towns like Tartu, Daugavpils and Klaipeda. In this work, a concept for an integrated schedule, as well as a new train route network, is developed based on the planning for the Rail Baltica project and current transportation demands with the focus of good connections of the peripheral parts of the Baltic States to the main line of Rail Baltica without major infrastructure investments.

Compound nouns and their translation in the Lithuanian and Latvian languages

There have been many issues and discussions concerning compounding, however, as far as Lithuanian and Latvian languages – the two languages of interest to me – are concerned, the number of comparative synchronic studies of composition in Lithuanian and Latvian languages is still rather scarce. Therefore, one of the aims of my study was to supplement current depository of research in Lithuanian-Latvian word-formation. The object of my work is compounds of the Lithuanian and Latvian languages, to be more precise – the ones found in R. Granauskas’s novel „Kenotafas“ and in I. Ābele’s novel „Uguns nemodina“ and respectively in their Latvian and Lithuanian translations. The aim of this study foremost was to delineate and compare the features of nominal composition of the Lithuanian and Latvian languages and carry out a little research on compounds in Lithuanian and Latvian languages based on their structural and semantic-syntactic classification. Also, my work shows general tendencies of compound translation in Lithuanian and Latvian languages (also based on classifications mentioned above). The method applied in my work was synchronic derivational analysis.
Inga Doniņa
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(A.Ķepīte, A.Indriksone, L.Kalniņa, A.Ceriņa)
University of Latvia

Burial of the dead in the water: Lake Vilkmuiža and its correlation with burial ground

Important but little studied field of Couronian culture is burial of the dead in water. Such types of burials are detected in Lake Vilkmuiža in Talsi town. This burial ground can be considered as a unique archaeological site, because it is the only known burial ground in Latvia that is located in water.

Lake Vilkmuiža is located in the Western part of Latvia and is included in the archaeological complex of Talsi town. The lake is situated approximately 600 m from Lake Talsi and hill-fort Talsi. Found artifacts are concentrated in roughly 10 to 25 meters wide and 70 to 100 meters long zone along the East coastline of the lake.

Until now in archaeological studies this phenomena is related to peculiar form of burial tradition of late iron age and middle ages. Peculiarity of this burial tradition is the fact, that it seem that the dead where burned first and later submerged in the lake. Burial of the dead in water is associated with Couronian culture and can be considered as a new type cremation.

In 2013 a joint geo-archaeological research was started in Lake Vilkmuiža. The objective is to understand if the burial ground was established next to waterline of Lake Vilkmuiža and flooded by rising water levels or submerging of remains of deceased in water existed as a peculiar form of burial. Geographical, geological and archaeological research methods are used in the research of archaeological site of Lake Vilkmuiža.

Arianna Grasso
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McDonald’s Commitment to Sustainability: An Ecolinguistic Analysis

Over the past few decades, climate change has become a central matter on the political agenda of contemporary industrialized societies. In this light, public and media discourses play a pivotal role in raising awareness of environmental issues worldwide. The following research investigates how the visual and the verbal discourse interact in McDonald’s official website, aiming at understanding how the fast-food chain portraits its commitment to sustainability in the website and therefore to customers. The pilot study relies on a triangulated methodology that combines critical discourse analysis and multimodal discourse analysis and provides also some insights into ecolinguistics. The paper shows that, despite some discrepancies, there are precise representational choices that contribute to the portrayal of McDonald’s commitment to sustainability, both within the verbal and the visual discourse. Regarding the former, preliminary quantitative results highlight the frequency of words that semantically connect to the concept of sustainability. However, from a second qualitative analysis, instances of vague language and indirectness can be singled out. As regards visual discourse, visual composition, salience, layout, framing and colour are analysed and it emerges clearly that also visual representations allude to the corporation’s commitment. The outcome of this pilot study encourages to oppose the marketization of nature and beware manipulative discourse practices.
The Semantics of the Verbs of Activity in “The Seasons” by Kristijonas Donelaitis and in its Translation into Spanish

This paper investigates the semantics of the verbs of activity in the first Lithuanian poem “The Seasons” by Kristijonas Donelaitis and in its translation into Spanish. It aims to examine the meanings of the verbs of activity and analyze their equivalents in the translation of the poem. The research covers 51 verbs, selected from the poem, and their equivalents in the translation into Spanish, which are subjected to qualitative content analysis, comparative and frame semantics methodology. The verbs which best represent the frames and sub-frames were selected applying the qualitative content analysis method. The frames of Work, Damaging, Speak on topic, Motion, Ingestion and Entertainment, evoked by the selected verbs, are examined using the frame semantics methodology (FrameNet Project). Core and peripheral elements of frames and sub-frames are distinguished. Also, the means of expression, used to convey them, are analyzed. The Spanish equivalents of the verbs of activity that evoke frames or sub-frames are examined applying the comparative methodology. The research has shown that the verbs of activity can form the core of the mentioned frames. The analysis of the equivalents, found in the translation into Spanish, revealed them being partially equivalence in the majority of cases. This work could be useful for the semanticists or translators.

The Polish-Livonian (Latgalian) traces in Cracow

Nowadays the Polish Livonia is a south eastern region of Latvia called Latgalia or Letgale. The Polish-Livonian aristocracy, especially after the fall of the Polish-Lithuanian state, voluntarily Polonized. In the XIX century it was Cracow that for many of the persecuted by the Tzarist regime became an asylum. It was an academic and cultural center for the Poles from different partitions (Prussian, Russian). That is why in Cracow one could find many texts, objects related to the culture of the Baltics. The wide range of artefacts, from the archeological pieces from excavations in Bonifaców (Latvian: Bonifacova), through the literary manuscripts of famous Polish-Livonian writers (Bujnicki, Manteuffel, Ulanowska), to the memory sites (like Bulwar Inflancki, 'The Livonian Boulevard'). In this paper I would like to look for an answer for the questions, inter alia:

- What is the relation between the former Polish capital city and a remote region of Latvia?
- What kind of texts could be find in Cracow?
- Why Cracow was so esteemed by the Livonian aristocracy?
- When the history of Cracow-Livonian relations begin?
- Who was the most engaged in the transnational flow of the Western ideas into Livonia?
Karolina Repeckaite-Bagdone
PhD Student (Literature & Culture)
Vilnius University
Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore

Hide and Seek: Graffiti and the Reader in Lithuanian Exodus Poetry

When we are reading, we are always thinking about the text, author, meaning, but there is one more figure that should be revealed as well. The reader - shaping our thinking, giving meaning and mapping or guiding our understanding of the text. I would like to present this mysterious figure called the 'implied reader' and to show some academic tricks to catch him during our act of reading. I will do this by using reader-response criticism and through analysis of the communication model constructed in Lithuanian exodus poetry. I will analyse the contemporary art techniques called 'graffiti' and their appearance in poetry to prove that (and why) we still need fiction.

Lina Vizgirdė
PhD Student (Philology)
Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences

A Comparative-cross-disciplinary study of anthropolexemes in Lithuanian and English slang

Youth slang is permeated by an evaluator component and anthropocentricity, most slang units are descriptions of people (various differentiations according to gender, external/external characteristics, social status, interests, nationality, etc.). One of the largest groups of anthropolexemes is comprised of units with a negative evaluator modality (derogatives) and a positive meaning component (melioratives).

Gender marked units are a part of slang anthropolexemes which have an implied gender sema and gender stereotypes in their meaning, together with various psychological and social specifics. The study has shown that feminine slang anthropolexemes in Lithuanian and English languages are usually describing a woman as an object of sensory pleasure, accenting her body, real or supposed “availability”. The elements of the semantic field, which could be described as “the moral image of the woman”, in Lithuanian and English languages are more often portrayed with a negative sign.

Masculine slang anthropolexemes are dominated by semantic meanings connected to hegemonic, overstated masculinity, where a dynamic masculine origin, aggressiveness, success with women and sexual activity are accentuated. Therefore, a conclusion can be made that the central part in Lithuanian and English youths’ slang is dedicated to the masculine gender and the masculine worldview. The discourse, which creates this worldview is called androcentric.

An asymmetry is observed between anthropocentric derogatives and melioratives in youth language, this asymmetry can be partially described as axiological, because a generally negative view of people, frequent descriptions denying intelligence, individuality, morality, etc. dominate in both English and Lithuanian slang, on the other hand, the positive content meanings are usually linked only to external attractiveness.
Estonian History, Trauma and Body – Experiences of Women in the 20th Century According to Sofi Oksanen

Many novels written by the Finnish-Estonian author Sofi Oksanen can be seen as an artistic summary of recent history of Estonia, since they present the most important events taking place in the 20th century as the background of the main stories. The perspective of women is especially important for Oksanen – female experiences of war and occupation are widely problematized and discussed in her oeuvre (not only in her “Estonian” novels), which in turn challenges the official Estonian narrative and generally male-centred historiography.

The aim of this paper is to explore relations between literary representations of Estonian history provided by Oksanen; the way traumatic events are (collectively) remembered and the female body, which is perceived here as an embodiment of suppressed memories – a place, where those memories are written down. Consequently, the body functions as a storage of memory. Moreover, it maintains trauma and locates it in-between the private and the public spheres. Focusing on the human body, I will work with the term “body memory” and discuss the symbolical way of speaking of trauma, which usually cannot be expressed in other ways.

The end of the myth, the end of the world. Existential interpretation of Ragnarök

This paper is devoted the problem of the „presence” of nordic and baltic mythology in polish culture.

In the view of foregoing, it is interesting that in polish literature, which willingly invoke Greek mythology and the Bible, rather than to nordic culture, we might enumerate a lot of books that concern the tradition of baltic countries, e. g. the image of Swedish in The Deluge by Henryk Sienkiewicz, Nobel Prize Winner.

Among those books the most interesting seems to be The Ragnarök by Maria Rodziewiczówna, great polish novelist lived in 1864 – 1944, member of The Theosophical Society. The book written in 1906 seems to be an existential journey into the soul of men kind just before the I world was, profound analysis of nordic mythology in existential perspective like Kierkeaard’s contemplation about the chain of Fenrir. Ragnarök is not well known in Poland, so this paper will be a chance to fulfill that gap. We would like to show methods of psychological constructions, modern interpretation of nordic gods (human characters) and inspirations as well as source that Rodziewczówna considers. Our project is based on the latest publications about nordic mythology (Neil Gaiman, Kevin Caross) and polish sources of the discussed period.


Regina Sabonytė

MA (Applied Lithuanian Linguistics)

Vytautas Magnus University

**Mirthful and Polite Laughter: Acoustic Features**

In this research two the most common types of social laughter – polite and mirthful – are analysed. The aim of the research is to analyse the structure and acoustic features (duration, intensity, fundamental frequency, shimmer, jitter, first and second formants) of structural units of polite and mirthful laughter. The research material consists of 100 samples of spontaneous, non-overlapping polite and mirthful laughter (50 of each type). The recordings were annotated and boundaries of laughter units were determined by using PRAAT program. The analysis revealed that the clearest differences of polite and mirthful laughter can be seen in the structure and duration of laughter episodes. The analysis of other acoustic features shows some statistically significant differences between some structural units of polite and mirthful laughter but these differences do not reveal any clear tendencies that could be generalized.

Māra Braslava

MA Student (International Relations)

University of Tartu

**Ethnic Cleavage in Politics and Mnemonic Tensions: An Analysis of World War II Commemorative Practices in Latvia**

In Latvia history and remembrance of World War II is a source of contestation between the ethnic Latvian majority and the Russian speaking minority. However, several studies on public opinions suggest that the memory of Latvians and non-Latvians is more nuanced and different positons on 20th century history exist also within both ethnolinguistic groups. Using Bernhard and Kubik’s (2014) theoretical framework of mnemonic actors and memory regimes, this study seeks to answer how the diversity of mnemonic positions within both ethno-linguistic groups is reflected in the political discourse on WWII commemorative anniversaries. It examines commemorative practices of the so called Legionnaire day on March 16, and the commemoration of end of World War II on May 8 and May 9. The results show that March 16 and May 9 present a fractured memory regime. The mnemonic cleavages in official discourse are drawn along ethnic lines but within the ethnolinguistic groups different positions were found as well. Besides, increasingly more political actors are avoiding engagement in mnemonic conflicts. The analysis also suggests that while May 9 is becoming a point of more intense mnemonic contestation and political manipulation, March 16 is increasingly abnegated by political forces.
Helena Markowska
PhD Student (Polish Literature)
University of Warsaw

**Literary Studies in Vilnius (1803-1830). In the Archives**

Following a reorganization in 1803, the Principal School of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania was renamed the Imperial University of Vilnius, becoming the biggest and most vivid academic institution in the whole Russian Empire. That process of institutional change has been examined and described thoroughly by scholars of various fields. What remains unexplored, however, is the university curriculum of the period, especially with regard to the humanities. In my paper I would like to focus on the discipline of literary studies and analyze the content of courses taught by Leon Borowski in order to reconstruct their subject matter. The research is based on archive materials stored in the Vilnius University Library, the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences Library and the Lithuanian State Historical Archive. The aim of such a reconstruction is to challenge the contemporary view on the way literature and poetics were taught and studied in Vilnius, based on the works of Euzebiusz Słowacki [for more information on the topic, please reference “Literary Theory in Vilnius University at the Beginning of the 19th Century” presented at the 3rd Bridges in the Baltics conference]. In addition, this presentation will focus on unsuccessful attempts to introduce Lithuanian language courses amidst a growing interest in Romanticism among academics working in the humanities at the time.

Laura Vabiščeviča
MSc Student (Applied Linguistics)
University of Edinburgh

**A contemporary sociolinguistic investigation of Vowel deletion in Latvian**

Deletion of word-final, unstressed vowels is a well known phonological feature of Latvian speech (Balode & Holvoet, 2001; Endzelīns, 1922), which has been investigated by Kariņš in 1995. Results of his variationist study showed that prosodic (distance of the candidate vowel from the main word stress) and social (education level of speakers) factors have the most impact on rates of vowel deletion across his sample of eight Latvian speakers of various age and education levels.

My study takes Kariņš' methodology (sociolinguistic interviews) as the basis of replication and above-mentioned conclusions as hypotheses to be tested. I have enhanced the sample to be representative of particular social strata. My aim is to achieve statistically significant results about both external (social) and internal (linguistic) factors of vowel deletion as a sociolinguistic variable.

According to Coupland (2016), an important consideration when analysing variation in speech is to understand not only the correlation between variation in speech and social factors, but also the meaning of such variation as seen by speakers themselves. I have attempted to discover whether speakers have the meta-linguistic awareness of vowel deletion in Latvian and what meaning do they assign to such variation as the final question in my interviews. This aspect makes my study not only variationist, but also conforming to the most recent developments in the sociolinguistic field (Coupland, 2016).
Madara Eversone  
PhD Student (Literature, Folklore, Art)  
University of Latvia

Latvian Writers under the Pressure of Latvian Soviet Writers’ Union in 1940/1941

On June 17, 1940 territory of Latvia was occupied by the USSR. According to the new power and ideological principles of the Communist party cultural and literary life was reshuffled, including professional associations of writers. Due to the Statutes of the USSR Soviet Writers’ Union and the direct instructions from the Communist Party of Latvia, the Latvian Soviet Writers’ Union organizing committee was set up on 26 October 1940. One of the most important tasks for newly formed organizing committee of Writers’ Union was to promote new ideology for fictional works thus emphasizing writers’ political and ideological education.

The Communist Party and the Writers’ Union management had an interest to cooperate with most talented and popular writers whose biography and achievements in literature did not always meet the Marxist-Leninist ideology and socialist realism canon (e.g. Aleksandrs Čaks, Jānis Jaunsudrabins, Kārlis Skalbe, Mārtiņš Žīvers). Nevertheless, the far-sighted idea of the Union was to transform their textual and ideological conviction in accordance with the principles of the new ideology.

The paper examines the methods used by the Board of the Latvian Soviet Writers’ Union as a pressure to speed up development of socialist literature and writers ‘ideological upbringing’. A case study about the creation of first Soviet Latvian plays in the spring of 1941 shows the controversies of the first years of a new political regime.

Svetlana Kass  
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University of Warsaw

A Clown’s Monologue and the Circus of the Absurd (Estonian Dystopian Fiction in 2015)

Winner of the 2015 Estonian Writers’ Union Novel Competition Lui Vutoon by Armin Kõomägi, is a modern Robinson-esque novel, in which a young Tallinn resident Lui finds himself completely alone in the world one day. This story ridiculing all the aspects of consumer society, and the protagonist somewhat resembles the clown in Heinrich Böll’s novel The Clown. Parallels are more conceptual than essential – for example, Lui is listed in the marketing head’s phone as ‘young clown’. The illusory nature of the world of money and the maze of false values are seen as if in a distorting mirror. Lui Vutoon is a social-critical dystopia, a satirical hyper-parody.

On other hand, almost non-existent consumer society with all its Soviet-period-like deficit and on same time colourful characters is described in Gogol’s Disco by Paavo Matsin. Novel, winner of the European Union Prize for Literature 2015, is set in a near-future in which Imperial Russia has put an end to Estonian independence, and Estonians became a tiny minority. On centre-stage are Viljandi’s circus-like community of mainly Russian-speaking intellectuals and villains, where the successive events are becoming more and more absurd, culminating in complete absurdity. Gogol’s Disco can be called a romping dystopia or an allegorical grotesque, a novel which is both anti-utopian and its parody.
The Conceptualization of GĖDA (‘shame/embarrassment, shyness’) in Lithuanian Paremiology (in comparison to Polish, English and Russian)

The purpose of this paper is to present the conceptual structure of GĖDA (‘shame/embarrassment, shyness’), as it appears in the Lithuanian paremiology (in comparison to Polish, English and Russian concepts related to „self-conscious emotions“).

The psychological and anthropologic characteristics of emotions from the family of GĖDA/SHAME constitute a general introduction to the analysis presented.

The theoretical background of the linguistic study presented in the main part of the paper is determined both by semantic structures of lexical concepts and semantic relations between lexical items from the lexical field of the names of emotions as well as cognitive semantics with its theory of conceptual metaphors, metonymies and cognitive models of emotions.

The analysis of paremiologies allows to distinguish between various aspects of the conceptualization of psychological states to which the Lithuanian noun gėda is applied. As a result of the analysis a set of cognitive models used in Lithuanian in the conceptualization of GĖDA is outlined and some metonymic and metaphoric motivation of such models is discussed.

The results of the analysis of Lithuanian data are contrasted to Polish, English and Russian.
Marta Starostina
MA Student (History)
University of Latvia

‘Intourist’ in Baltic Countries in Soviet time

‘Intourist’ was the biggest tourism organisation in Soviet Union. In 1960 it was established in other SSSR occupied territories including Baltic countries. Why is it important to research about tourism organisation during the Soviet Union period? It’s because this organisation was established not only to organise tourism process but control foreigner tourists too.

There are only few researchers who research this topic, for example, Oliver Pagel in Estonia or Ineta Lipša and Marta Starostina in Latvia. That why we need to continue research more archive materials and compare it to literature abroad. And it would be necessary to research not only - 222 archive in Latvian State archive, 771 archive in Lietuvas Yopatingasis archhyvas and Estonian State Archives, and collections from R-2136, but also other archival materials too. Besides archive materials, people who worked in ‘Intourist’ organisation or had any connection concerning foreign tourist, would be important to interviewed.

Presently, I am researching about ‘Intourist’ tourist control system in Latvia. There are a lot’s of ways on how to control tourist to abide by the rules and regulation governing tourist activities in the country. Thus, there is the need to compare tourist systems with two different Baltic countries.

In my research I learnt that ‘Intourist’ were cooperate organisation associated with Committee for State Security (KGB) to control and influence foreigner tourists activities. Therefore, there is the need to know starting point of Committee for State Security influence and how deep and lengthy this processes played out in ‘Intourist’ organisations.

In 5th Baltic Student Conference “Bridges in the Baltics” I want to research about ‘Intourist’ organisation in three Baltic countries. What was common and unique in All-Union Stock Company ‘Intourist’ in Latvian SSR, Lithuanian SSR and Estonian SSR. What was ‘Intourist’ tasks and did tasks were accomplished. What was tourist opinion about tourism in Baltics in Soviet occupation time?

This topic is important because there is only few research about this organisation and they are without context. More people should to know about touristic organisation what where controlling tourism process not only in Baltic countries, but in all Soviet Union and what has agencies in Wester Europe too. Besides in this three countries come a tourist from Sweden too, for example latvian ethnic tourists who left Latvia in Second Word war.
**Why and how do people read? The anthropological perspectives**

For a long time the act of reading (especially the reading of literature) has been something self-evident – desired as a part of aristocratic living, cultivated in educational systems, used for self-growth – in an intellectual and emotional ways. After reading has become available to masses, individual works of literature have even been sorted in quality categories – in the highbrow and the lowbrow literature, and then in reverse, now the researchers are more and more looking at the non-eternal literature – written for mainly only entertainment appealing to mainstream readers. However, the readers themselves, outside the theorization of the reading process, have been somehow left out from the focus area. The purpose for this research (an ethnography) is going to be to enlighten the purposes and circumstances in which a society (Latvian society) consumes literature (the historical novel). It will expand the context of thinking about the reading process itself, to look for the reasons and ways in which people read; to look for the very core of the literature-reading process itself, which will probably stay in the form of particular aspects of human need even, after the digitalization of the text, and finally: to show that the seemingly obvious aspects of reading are not so obvious afterall.

**Genre Problem of Lithuanian Formula Tales and Formula Songs**

The 21st century is a time of virtual reality, which has reached us everywhere. The main form of communication in nowadays is texts: messaging, social networking, e-mails etc. We are living through texts, that’s why they are so important during learning of languages. Fiction is prop of arts and in the same time it is very humane because ofmissive about relationships.

Language teaching and learning are two-sided process and it is the deepest level of communication. Understanding of texts ensures students' ability to analyze, and it may help to reach critical thinking.

The aim of research is to introduce with tasks, which are developed for secondary school level students to acquire Latvian (Latgalian) language and literature. I have used Theory of Archetypes, which was developed by psychoanalyst Carl Gustav Jung, Paul Grice’s Theory of Maxims and John Searle’s Theory of Speech Acts.

Integrated point of view (literary theory and linguistics) on literary text is expanding students' insights of communication models, linguistic tools and markers, which express functionality of language. The research is based on novel “Pīters Vylāns” written by Čenču Jezups (published in 1943, 1967).
Arina Ivanickaya
PhD Student (Philology)
Klaipėda University

Lexical Features of the First Written Source of the Kursenieku Language

Curonian descendants, who moved to the Curonian Spit and the mainland from the Courland in the 15th–17th cc., brought their own dialect, which eventually became a separate ethnic minority language of the Prussian state. It was a local fishermen’s language, which was never official or acquire a written form. However, there were attempts to record it by using various characters of other languages. Records in the so-called Pallas’s dictionary (1787, 1789) are considered to be the first source of Kursenieku language. The published version of the dictionary contains 286 words of the Kursenieku language, as well as words of other 199 languages represented in Europe and Asia, translated from the Russian language and transcribed in Cyrillic. Nevertheless, the manuscript of the dictionary in Latin, which is stored in the St. Petersburg branch of the Archive of the Russian Academy of Sciences, is of more value to linguistics.

Kursenieku dialect was constantly influenced by other languages – Lithuanian and German; thus, its stages of development can be compared by analysing written sources of different periods. The aim of the following report is to compare the changes of the Kursenieku lexis within one and a half hundred years by taking into account the reliability of sources and circumstances of their creation. The research is based on the materials of the 18th c. S. Pallas’s dictionary manuscript. Lexemes recorded in the manuscript are compared to the lexical and semantic equivalents recorded by M. Voelkel, A. Bezenberg in the 19th c., by J. Pļakis in the early 20th c., and by R. Pietsch in the second half of the 20th c.

Keywords: Kursenieku Language, Written Sources, Lexis, Curonian Spit

Ieva Rodiņa
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University of Latvia

Postdramatic language of Latvian theatre: Elmārs Seņkovs and the stage production of a Latvian “joke play” The Sins of Trine

Elmārs Seņkovs is one of the leading artists among the New Wave of Latvian stage directors. Since 2010 when he made his first appearance in Latvian theatre Seņkovs has become a director who in his creative work connects the principles of psychological realism and postdramatic theatre. His stage productions usually consist of convincing actor’s work, powerful visual and audial signs and, curiously, a very thoughtful reading of the text which the performance is based upon.

In the last few seasons Elmārs Seņkovs has staged mainly the works of world classics – The Seagull by Anton Chekhov at Latvian National Theatre, The Good Person of Szechwan by Bertolt Brecht at Riga Russian Theatre, etc. His last production on the large stage of Latvian National Theatre is a colourful and ambitious interpretation of the play The Sins of Trine (“Trīnes grēki”, 1896) by the Latvian classic Rūdolfs Blaumanis (1863-1908). Blaumanis himself defined it as a “joke play”, and this specific genre has given an inspiration for a performance based upon expressive physical action, using the principles of commedia dell’arte and puppet theatre. This research paper will analyse the visual signs of the performance The Sins of Trine, drawing a conclusion about the postdramatic language of contemporary Latvian theatre altogether.
Ernesta Kazakénaitė
PhD Student
Vilnius University

**Text reuse project in 16th- and 17th-century Latvian writings**

The idea of my talk is to share the experience of carrying out a PhD project which official title is *The First Latvian Translation of a Lutheran Bible and its Printed Excerpts from 16th and 17th Century: Interconnected Links and Influences*. This is a kind of text reuse project. Its main goal is to show that the translator of the first Latvian Bible (which was published in 1685) used not only originals, the Vulgata or Lutheran Bible, as was common practice for translations at that time, but also earlier Latvian printed texts (as pericopes) where possible.

In this talk I will shortly highlight problems which arise when a researcher wants to detect text reuse in 16th- and 17th-century writings.

Dita Joniête
PhD Student (Theatre, Music, Film)
Latvian Academy of Culture

**Building Bridges Between Contemporary Dance and Theatre: Case Study of the Choreographer Agate Bankava**

Agate Bankava is a young Latvian choreographer, first professionally educated at the Riga Choreography School to have continued with the Contemporary Dance bachelor and master studies at the Latvian Academy of Culture.

Her creative work clearly illustrates current trends of mutual influencing and symbiosis between diverse stage art practices. Agate Bankava has been working as a choreographer and stage movement director for dramatic theatre as well as created her own contemporary dance performances. She is the author of the first contemporary dance performance in a state subsidised theatre in Latvia - *Nature Morte*, created in the autumn of 2016. Both theatrical actors and professional dancers were present on the stage, merging their techniques and experiences.

The proposed research paper analyzes various aspects of Agate Bankava’s creative work by tracing differences and similarities of body techniques applied by theatrical actors, dancers and dance theatre performers as suggested by Patrice Pavis. The research paper is part of a research project aimed to explore both individual characteristics and overall influence of the currently active choreographers working in the theatrical scene of Latvia.
Raimonda Mikašauskienė  
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Aspectual Classes of Infixed Verbs Attested in Lithuanian Old Scripts of the 16-17th Century

This presentation provides an insight into the language of Lithuanian old scripts dating back to the 16-17th centuries which represent all Standard Language varieties of Lithuanian – works of Mažvydas, Bretkūnas, Daukša and Sirvydas. The presentation focuses on one group of verbs, called infixed, also known as “root verbs” which form their present stem by nasal infixation, e.g. *sninga* “it snows” – *snigo* “it snowed”. Lithuanian infixed verbs are usually intransitive, inchoative, denoting gradual change of a particular state or process. There are cases, however, when they designate active action, even implying the effective function. The varied semantics of these verbs might have been predetermined by the fact that Lithuanian infixed verbs have undergone several stages of structural and semantic change throughout their historical evolution and thus provides substantial motivation for their research.

The verbs attested in the old texts are classified according to Zen Vendler’s proposed system of actionality classes which allows grouping all verbs of a particular language to four major aspectual sections. Additional sub-classes of verbs will be provided so as to encompass all infixed verbs with their aspectual shifts in meaning.

The empirical data has been collected from the digital databases of old writings [http://www.lki.lt/seniejirastai/db.php](http://www.lki.lt/seniejirastai/db.php) and [http://www.epaveldas.lt](http://www.epaveldas.lt)

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The theme of the travel in the theatre of Rimas Tuminas

In the theatre of Rimas Tuminas the theme of the journey plays a special role. It is inseparably linked with the themes of remembrance and the return to the past, on which all the scenic reality of the Lithuanian director’s performances is based. The characters of his shows often speak of a travel – it is a kind of dream of a better life, away from the gray of everyday life. In the Tuminas’ theatre the travel have a double nature: literal, as a real journeys for a particular purpose, and metaphorical, which means travels in time and directed towards the past. Regardless of whether these are journeys in time or space, their purpose is always reminding or memorizing the memory. In my paper I present both types by analyzing four performances of Tuminas: *Nusišypsok mums, Viešpatie* [Smile at Us, oh Lord] from 1994, *Madagascar* (2004) and two plays of Chekhov *The Cherry Orchard* (1990) and *Three Sisters* (1997). I also put a special attention onto the suitcase as a universal symbol of travel in the Tuminas’ theatre.
Dana Navrova  
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_Balto-Slavic unity: the roots of uncertainty revealed by Jānis Endzelīns_

Some special mutual features between the Baltic and the Slavic languages were found some centuries ago. There are two lines which are cultivated by the researchers. The first point is that there existed Balto-Slavic proto-language which was a separate dialect of Indo-European proto-language. This theory is presented in the works of foreign and Russian linguists such as A. Schleicher, A.Shahmatov, J.Kurilowicz, J.Otrebski e.t.c. The opposite view is presented by P.J.A.Meillet and K.Brugmann. French researcher was the first one who posed the essential question, did the Balto-Slavic unity exist or not. Those linguistic hesitations could be found in his work ‘The Indo-European dialects’.

Remarkable Latvian linguist Jānis Endzelīns was the person who gave his thoughts on the position of P.J.A. Meillet by presenting his Doctoral thesis «Балто-славянские этюды» in 1912. In the conclusion of his work he told that the term ‘Baltic-Slavic proto-language’ is incorrect because it’s not allowed to show ‘the full unity of Baltic and Slavic languages from the linguistical side’. Nevertheless, his work covers the overall number of mutual words in Slavic and Baltic languages as well as previously unknown linguistic examples and surprising conclusions.

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_Historical reenactment movement: Swedish and Lithuanian cases_

Humans that are using unusual tools, dress old-fashioned clothes and look as they are from the past can be seen during public festivals, markets that are transfused with “old” spirit. For many participants of these festivals this is the chance to expose their individuality, worldview and identity. Is there any difference similarities between historical reenactment in different countries?

Observations of this object started at around year 2013 in Lithuania. During this year interviews and participant observations took place in Sweden too. Results of my research will be introduced in this presentation by comparing Swedish and Lithuanian cases. Biggest attention will be payed to main groups of historical reenactment, subjects of their activities and material background. Main characters of identity are analyzed by ethnic, historical and cultural influences and their symbols.
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Comparative and superlative constructions in Baltic

Baltic languages and dialects exhibit quite an amount of variation in the expression of comparison. Quite strikingly, the three written Baltic languages do not agree neither on the morphology of the comparative suffix (cp. Lith. ger- esnis / ger-iaũ(s), Latv. lab-aks, OPr. mald-aisin), nor on the syntactic expression of the standard of comparison. Evidence from the Lithuanian and Latvian dialects, as well as from Baltic microlanguages (e.g. the kursenieki dialect) makes the situation even more intricate and points to a late grammaticalisation of the comparative and superlative constructions. The interplay with other parameters such as definiteness will also be discussed. After a thorough survey of the data, I will provide some hints for linguistic reconstruction of intermediary stages up to Proto-Baltic.

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The Artistic Practice of People with Disabilities, Societal Stereotypes and Overcoming them with the Help of Art Products

The majority of the Latvian society is unaware of the number of people with disabilities in Latvia. It could be explained by the fact that disabled people are seldom involved in public activities on a daily basis, including activities organised by cultural and educational institutions. Latvia has signed the UN Convention on Persons with Disabilities, and UNESCO also stands for creativity and diversity of cultural expression. However, most Latvian cultural and educational institutions still do not have an appropriate infrastructure to provide accessibility for people with disabilities. As a result, they cannot exercise their right to cultural and artistic accessibility. Consequently, people with disabilities do not have the opportunity to create art products. But they want it.

My research subject is people with special needs, their artistic practices, and the interaction between the outcome – a work of art – and the audience, as well as its impact on the social inclusion process. I will present my empirical research data showing what Latvian schoolchildren of different ages understand with the word “artist” and whether it correlates with their expectations to see a person with disabilities as an artist on the stage.* I will also report on the feedback received from in-depth interviews with the audience of a concert, in which people with special needs participated as artists.

- The survey was answered by school age children attending the Integrative Arts Festival Come along! The Festival participants are children and young people with special needs.

Keywords: People with disabilities, Artistic practice, Art product, Inclusion
National Identity in a Nutshell: Exploring the Importance of Handicraft Among Baltic States

The sense of belonging is one of the key points to the internal cohesion of a particular group of people, and it is fundamental for the building of national identity. For small countries such as Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, the awareness of belonging becomes particularly important in the process of national integration on the world stage. The folk craft, which could be deemed as a national symbol of spontaneous expression, people aim to preserve it as a cultural phenomenon as well as a source of subsistence. From woven sashes of Lithuania to knitted lace of Estonia, handicraft is regarded as a national pride among the Baltic States. This paper explores the role of handicraft in the building of national identities in the Baltic States. How does handicraft tradition work as a link between individuals and national space? To what extent does this culture reflects on people’s daily life and their identity issues? Here I explore the importance of handicraft and its symbolic meaning of collective memory and sense of belonging in a Baltic context.

Key words: national identity; Baltic states; handicraft; material culture

The Lithuanian “vėlės” and Latvian “veļi” mythologeme

In Lithuanian as well as in Latvian exist multiple expressions for various substances of soul. One of them, Lithuanian “vėlės”, Latvian “veļi” (both in plural form), has been discussed by etymologists several times for its possible etymological connection to Indo-European theonym with root *ṷel- (Roman Jakobson as the first one coming up with the same root for the two semantic fields; V. V. Ivanov with V. N. Toporov continuing on mythological terms derived according to them from the root *yel-; E. P. Hamp arguing some aspects of aforementioned). In accordance with the methodology and terminology used by R. Kregždys based firstly on analysis within the respective linguo-cultural (in this case Lithuanian and Latvian) material and then on further comparison with genetically and geographically close (Slavic) areas this paper aims to analyse mythonym (R. Kregždys’ term meaning mystificated entities of various spheres/objects being used or used in mythological or folklore space) “vėlės”/“veļi”, using the data collected from folklore texts in combination with linguistic approach.