***KREAS, VP2 – Final Conference***

(M1.11, M2.11, M3.12)

March 2-3, 2023

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Abstracts of conference talks

**Ambiguity avoidance and discourse coherence in switch reference**

Scott AderBois, Brown University

While not found in European languages, Switch reference (SR) is a reasonably common phenomenon cross-linguistically in which the grammar of a language obliges a choice between forms requiring a clause's subject to be the SAME or DIFFERENT to that of an adjacent clause. Much research on SR takes its function to be one of ambiguity avoidance. In English, which lacks SR, the pronoun "they" in a sequence like "The city council denied the protesters' permit because they..." is ambiguous between interpretations in which "they" refers to the city council (SAME subject as the preceding clause) or in which "they" refers to the protesters (DIFFERENT subject than the preceding clause). In languages with SR, however, encoding SAME/DIFFERENT subject relations has the effect of avoiding this ambiguity. While clearly a consequence of SR, the idea that SR is functionally motivated by ambiguity avoidance alone makes a clear prediction that SR ought to be found in all and only the environments where such ambiguities arise (or at least potentially do so). In this talk, we test this hypothesis with a case study on switch reference in A'ingae (an endangered isolate language of Amazonian Ecuador). We show that the distribution of SR diverges substantially from what the ambiguity avoidance hypothesis predicts; SR remains obligatory even when ambiguities are not possible, and systematically fails to occur in many cases where ambiguity does arise. Instead, we argue that the distribution of SR is governed by discourse coherence relations; SR occurs where there is a coordinating coherence relation in the sense of theories like SDRT, intuitively one in which the rhetorical focus shifts to a new scene. We flesh out this generalization and consider its implications in light of recent theorizing about the interrelationships between discourse coherence and pronoun resolution more broadly.

**City in the Storm:**

**Architecture as a mirror of the struggle for the historical centre of Prague**

Richard Biegel (WP3; Department of Art History)

The historic centre of Prague underwent a dramatic transformation in the second half of the 19th and the first half of the 20th century. It was here that efforts at radical transformation, including the construction of modern districts and grand public buildings, were concentrated. The precondition for these interventions was widespread demolition, which affected even the oldest and most valuable parts of the city. It was thanks to these demolitions that the cultural public realised the value of historic Prague and began to fight for its protection. At the same time, there was a remarkable struggle between historicizing and modern architecture, which was also concentrated in the historic centre of the city. We will try to unravel all these layers of the city's urban history during an architectural walk, which will start at the Faculty of Arts building and will focus on the transformation of the Old Town.

**Adaptability and creativity in marginal(ized) spaces:**

**Understanding community resilience through the perspective of cultural Hheritage**

Alexandra Bitušíková (WP3; University of Matej Bel in Banska Bystrica)

Jaroslav Ira, Jiří Janáč, Linda Kovářová (WP3; Institute of World History)

Our contribution focuses on the concept of community resilience in marginalized spaces. Pressures related to economic globalization and its fundamental impact on social–spatial inequalities pose diverse challenges to peripheral environments such as small towns, border regions and rural areas. Facing growing political extremism, social exclusion, urban shrinkage or economic downturn, local communities develop strategies and practices aimed at strengthening social cohesion. Cultural heritage production, i.e. mobilization, performance and reproduction of traditional local identities, represents a vital component of such strategies to survive and recover from adverse conditions. The hypothesis promoted and tested (to a limited extent) in this paper proposes that heritage activities (understood in broad terms) are central for building more resilient communities facing marginalization.

**Even more bias than we expected – online survey of the Czech elderly**

Eva Dragomirecká (WP2; Department of Psychology)

Hana Georgi (Prague College of Psychosocial Studies)

In recent years, there have been discussions (e.g., Nielsen et al., 2017) of the general validity of psychological findings, pointing out that most studies are based on data from WEIRD (Western, educated, industrialized, rich, and democratic) populations. This work is another contribution to the problematization of the generalization of research results, due to the data collection methods used. We compared the results of two questionnaire surveys of well-being among the elderly Czech population aged 65 and over. The instruments used were the same, they included measures of life satisfaction, psychopathology, subjective health status, physical activity and sociodemographic characteristics, only the data collection technique differed. The results showed what part of the senior population we get online compared to personal administration and how the results obtained in this way can be biased.

**Romani oikonymy and perspectives of its research**

Viktor Elšík (WP1; Linguistics Department)

Research of Romani oikonyms, i.e. proper names of inhabited places (esp. towns and villages), is still in its infancy. The aim of this paper is to outline various research perspectives on Romani oikonymy, based on data from Slovakia and focusing on the following topics:

1. Romani oikonyms in Slovakia are completely ignored by the administration and only formally and fictitiously represented in the public space. I will outline the possibilities of investigating this phenomenon from the perspective of political onomastics.
2. Oikonyms in the Romani varieties of Slovakia are material (and, to a limited extent, structural) borrowings from their current or past contact languages. Romani often conserves older oikonyms, especially loanwords from Hungarian, which are no longer used in the language of the local non-Romani population or in the current administrative usage. However, unlike in some other Romani dialects, there are no cryptic oikonyms, i.e. names deliberately incomprehensible to the majority population. I will show how these different onomastic strategies may be related to different linguistic ideologies in different Romani speech communities.
3. Romani oikonyms are not standardized and show a certain degree of variation. I will illustrate the factors of this variation, including sub-ethnically defined dialect, geographical distance, and the (change of the) contact or teaching language. In this context, I will introduce the concept of the *traditional local* oikonym, which is useful for describing the oikonymy of a non-standardized language.

**Tense, modality and evidentiality in interaction: The case of the Spanish conditional**

Dana Kratochvílová (WP1; Department of Romance Studies)

The paper focuses on the Spanish conditional, which is characterised by a wide range of uses that could be described as modal, temporal and evidential (quotative). The analysis is based on cognitive grammar and the notions of subjectivity and ground as defined by Langacker. I point out the ways in which tense, modality and evidentiality are intertwined in the meaning of the Spanish conditional, the extent to which individual usages of the Spanish conditional are analogous to the English *would*, and how the different components of the conditional meaning can be analysed in their interaction.

**Patterns of distribution of Mycenaean pottery within the Aegean basin and their interpretation**

**Bartłomiej Lis, Polish Academy of Sciences**

Pottery that first came into being in the Peloponnese around 1600 BC and became widely used in the entire Greek Mainland and beyond during ensuing five centuries is usually referred to as Mycenaean, following the designation of the dominant culture. It is characterized by a variety of shapes, with a diachronically varied repertoire, and a huge array of decorative motifs, likewise chronologically sensitive, executed usually in iron-based lustrous firing paint. It was produced in a variety of regions, within and beyond the Greek Mainland, but products of some of the workshops were also widely exchanged.

In my presentation, I will first discuss the ways in which we identify products of particular workshops, focussing on archaeometric methods, but also highlighting the role of a more traditional macroscopic analysis. Then I will comment on the distribution within the Central and Northern Aegean of pottery from selected workshops/production centres. This area, which encompasses Thessaly, the island of Euboea, Northern Greece, part of the western coast of Anatolia, and numerous Aegean islands, is rarely the main focus of Aegean archaeology, but due to a considerable amount of recent fieldwork and other studies, including analytical ones, a much clearer picture emerges also with respect to the distribution of Mycenaean pottery. In the final part of my paper, I will focus on the interpretation of the emerging diachronic pattens, highlighting possible communication routes as well as the driving force(s) behind the exchange in pottery and the adaptation processes behind it.

**Occupational well-being among Czech university faculty**

Jiří Mudrák, Kateřina Zábrodská (WP2; Department of Psychology)

The Czech higher education system has been undergoing a gradual transformation over the last twenty years, during which the traditional Humboldtian values of academic autonomy and collegiality have clashed with the developing market orientation emphasizing internationalization, productivity and applicability of academic work. In this paper, we present results of a large research project that examines the impact of the transformation of academic work and workplaces in Czech universities on the occupational health, motivation and productivity of academics. Our aim is to explore the ways in which work motivation and organizational behaviour of academics is situated in broader organizational contexts, and how the interactions between different actors create conditions for the occupational health, job satisfaction and productivity of academic staff.

**From the Balkans to Anatolia:**

**Archaeological connectivity and adaptation in the presumed border zones**

Peter Pavúk, Petra Tušlová, Marek Verčík (WP3; Institute of Classical Archeology)

The past two decades (and likely even more than that) have witnessed an unprecedented upsurge in rather complex discussions of various ‘-isation’ phenomena, acculturation processes, and migration theories. At the same time, the long-held views of concepts of core, periphery, and margins as well as models of interaction within them had come, after closer scrutiny, under attack, but new unifying/rectifying models never emerged. The past realities were simply more complex and complicated than that. Starting from our three main case studies, field projects in Turkey, Bulgaria and Northern Macedonia, we shall present the results stemming from the various archaeological analyses conducted in the past 5 years, trying to raise awareness of the active role of the local populations encircling the Aegean Sea, against the changing chronological background, from the Late Bronze Age, through Early Iron Age to the Roman Period. What might seem as border zones from one perspective are centres from another.

**RATIONALITY AGAINST DIRTY POLITICS:**

**Roots of the Technocratic Governance in Czechoslovakia**

Jakub Rákosník (WP3; Institute of Economic and Social History)

The paper is concerned with the early technocratic tendencies that started among Czechoslovak scholars after the First World War. We can reconstruct a continuous line from the visions limited to the rational management of work in the enterprise, through broader socio-economic planning as a supplement to democratic procedures, to the planning of the war economy and Soviet central macroeconomic planning. In addition to this general line of development, the paper will summarize the main thesis of our collective monograph written as part of the project KREAS. We show in different fields of the society (resources, population, space) how, during the 20th century, technocratic tendencies of rational management coexisted with different political regimes.

**Managerialism or Industrial Democracy?**

**The Fall of Socialism and Expert Governance in Czechoslovak Industry**

Vítězslav Sommer (WP3; Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences)

This paper examines the challenges posed by the Velvet Revolution to power relations in Czechoslovak industry. Using the example of the Svit Zlín company, it will show what the strategy of the managers was in 1989 and 1991, and what criticism they faced from the ranks of activists who demanded a more radical break with the past or a new arrangement of power relations in the companies. More generally, the case study will explore the relationship between the technocratic legacy of late socialism and the democratic demands of 1989.

**Wind of change in the steppes of Central Asia:**

**Coming and going of Greeks after Alexander**

Ladislav Stančo, Jan Kysela, Jakub Havlík (WP3; Institute of Classical Archeology)

Southern Central Asia as a crossroads of cultures and civilisations bore witness throughout Prehistory and history to a number of waves of newcomers, typically nomadic in their origin. These peoples every now and then arrived from the northern Eurasian steppe belt to enrich the melting pot of ideas, subsistence strategies and languages, often seizing power over local oases in the process. Greco-Macedonian invasion was different on many levels and its impact on local population was multi-layered and is easily traceable in the archaeological record. This contribution shows examples of changes in local Bactrian societies and in regional economy caused by the arrival of the Greeks, but also those related to their loss of control that we have had an opportunity to study during last five years under the aegis of KREAS.

**Spatial encoding in Czech:**

**The expression of motion events by Czech native vs. non-Nnative speakers**

Svatava Škodová (WP1; Institute of Czech Studies)

The aim of the paper is to introduce the ongoing study of motion events, especially concentrating on the verbs of motion. It examines how Czech native vs. non-native speakers lexicalize motion events and what patterns of spatial encoding they follow or deviate from. Following Talmy’s semantic classification of world languages into verb-framed and satellite-framed (Talmy, 1985) that distinguishes between languages in terms of their encoding patterns of motion events, the contribution presents a comparison of the range of motion verbs used by native and non-native speakers and comments on the semantics of spatial events.  The texts of the same assignment from comparable groups of Czech native speakers and non-native Czech speakers were analysed. They were obtained using an elicitation probe derived from movement acquisition research. A written production that can be categorized as a narrative in the range of 100 texts (50 texts from native Czech speakers and 50 texts from non-native Czech speakers) was elicited based on the picture book Frog, where are you? (Mayer, 1969).

**Too much variation: mixed auxiliation patterns in Italo-Romance dialects**

Pavel Štichauer (WP1; Department of Romance Studies)

In this talk, I discuss auxiliary verb constructions in Romance, in particular those that show two auxiliary verbs ‘H’ (< Lat. habere) and ‘E’ (< Lat. esse) which alternate, in a wide range of Italo-Romance varieties, within one and the same paradigm. I argue that such a distribution is the result of a special kind of grammaticalization, traditionally referred to as morphologization. I adopt a morphological approach to these mixed systems, claiming that in order to explain the distribution of the two auxiliaries within the paradigm, one has to make essential reference to paradigmatic structure rather than to the intrinsic featural composition of the auxiliaries (along the lines of paradigmatic approaches reviewed in Blevins 2016). I thus show that these mixed systems, although they often represent “delicate transitional stages” (Loporcaro 2014: 56, n. 8) exhibit various patterns of intra-paradigmatic variation that does not seem to “make sense” from a functional point of view, i.e. the patterns of variation do not seem to be motivated outside the narrow morphological subset of compound tenses. The discussion will rely on a dataset that is currently being put together. This database is part of a larger project called ‘MIXPAR’ (for MIXed PARadagms).

**Analysis and visualization of semantic change using collocations in English and Czech**

 Ondřej Tichý (WP1; Department of English Language nad LTE Methodology)

Václav Cvrček (WP1; Institute of the Czech National Corpus)

In this paper, we explore semantic change in words or phrases as evidenced by changes to their collocational patterns in Czech and English. We develop innovative statistical methodology to detect and analyze semantically meaningful changes to collocational patterns (i.e. changes that are more substantial than regular synchronic variation). To make the methodology widely available, we also introduce an alpha version of interactive tools to query, analyze and visualize the changes in diachronic corpora hosted by the Czech National Corpus infrastructure.

**Architectural practice as a form of technocratic governance in postwar Czechoslovakia**

Kimberly E. Zarecor, Iowa State University

Many architects returned to practice after World War II with new energy and optimism as long-sought changes to their work lives were suddenly possible with the emergence of a strong Communist Party. Even before 1948, professional organizations supported state salaries for architects, collective work, and a scientific approach to the building industry. The goal was to transform architecture from an individual artistic pursuit to a materialist practice based on quantitative research and expert knowledge. After 1948, architectural practice moved from private firms into state-run design institutes where architects and building engineers had the opportunity to reimagine the future built environment based on high-modernist design principles. Within these institutes, a technocratic approach to the management and deployment of building systems dominated, even when Socialist Realism became a mandated decorative style in the early 1950s. This paper will look at the origins of this technocratic approach in the interwar avant-garde and trace its influence into the 1970s.