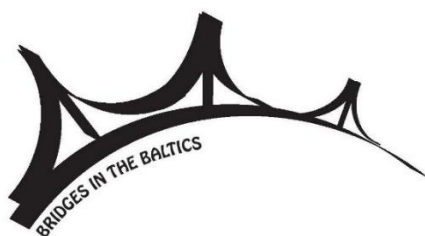




UNIVERSITY OF TARTU



10th Baltic Student Conference

BRIDGES
IN THE BALTICS

22–23 September 2023

ABSTRACTS



LATVIJAS
UNIVERSITĀTE



SVIETIMO
IR MOKSLO
MINISTĒRIJA



Izglītības un zinātnes
ministrs



HARIDUS- JA
TEADUSMINISTEERIUM



Latviešu valodas
aģentūra



EMBASSY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
TO THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA



Latvijas Republikas vēstniecība
Igaunijas Republikā

Kristel Algreve

University of Tartu, PhD student

Do L1 users find it difficult to write in Estonian? Analysis of one research question

At the beginning of the 20th century, there was a strong sense of the need to standardize the Estonian written language (Plado 2022:1075). Nowadays language principles ought to align with societal norms, and in a democratic context, they should avoid adopting an authoritarian stance (Päll 2019:111). The presentation primarily focuses on the attitudes to written language, as the influence of the Standard Language Ideology is one of the factors shaping the attitudes towards written form of language. The high prestige attributed to language standardization in society, along with the imposition of using only 'correct' language in schools, could significantly influence the linguistic confidence of language users (Baron 1976:2). How do Estonian L1 users themselves evaluate their writing skills in Estonian, and what are the joys and challenges of writing in Estonian? These questions form the main topic of this presentation.

Baron, Dennis E. 1976. Linguistic Insecurity: The Effect of Attitudes toward Language on Language Production. *Flowers of Evil*

Plado, Helen. 2022. Rahvakeelsus XX sajandi alguskümnendite Eesti keelekorralduses. (Vaateid eesti keelekorralduse arenguloole.) *Keel ja Kirjandus* 12, 1075–1092.

Päll, Peeter. 2019. Pilk eesti kirjakeele korraldamise sajandile ja tänapäevale. *Keel ja Kirjandus* 1–2, 107–111.

[Language of presentation: English]

Sindija Anča

University of Latvia, BA student

The nomenclature of traditional ornaments in Latvian and Lithuanian

The traditional ornaments, characteristic for the Latvian and Lithuanian ethnographic regions, are an essential part of traditional Baltic culture. Since the 19th century researchers have studied their technical aspects and semiotics (Brastiņš 1923, Dzērvīts 1925, Celms 2007) but little attention has been paid to empirical terminology. The name is an integral part of the sign, it often carries semantic information helping to reveal its usage and significance. In Latvia the names of traditional signs have been influenced by the work of E Brastiņš and dievturi ('Keepers of Dievs') who attributed the names of Baltic mythological deities to ornaments linking them to the manifestations of the deity mentioned in the denominations. While these denominations are very popular in Latvia, in Lithuania very similar ornaments are called and interpreted differently. This research focuses on collecting and analysing Baltic ornament nomenclature published in Latvia and Lithuania in the first half of the 20th century. It compares the ornament naming traditions in both countries and highlights the main parallels and differences. It also reviews previous research of ornament in Latvia and Lithuania where significant differences can be seen – while semiotic research dominates in Latvia, in Lithuania more attention has been paid to the nomenclature, although in both countries the nomenclature has often been viewed separately from the visual form, making the research of ornament evolution and typology difficult. It has been found that the spectrum of ornament

nomenclature at the beginning of the 20th century in Latvia was more diverse than it is now; that it is common for Latvians and Lithuanians to view ornament as a pattern rather than separate graphic elements and that geometric, plant, animal, artefact and celestial body denominations dominate the nomenclature of both languages. Symbols appearing in Baltic culture are also present in ornament nomenclature.

Keywords: comparative research, ethnographic Baltic ornament, Latvian signs, ornament typology, phenomenology, semiotics.

[Language of presentation: English]

Julia Antosiewicz

University of Warsaw, MA student

Cannabis is still prohibited. The drug policy around the Baltic Sea.

Drug policy is meant to control and regulate the usage of psychoactive substances, particularly those, causing a sort of dependance. It is meant to safeguard the public health as well as public order. In many of the European countries, drugs are excessively prohibited, both when it comes to usage and obtaining them.

Yet, there are certain groups that do not agree with total ban on drugs. Since there is a growing popularity of so called 'medical marihuana', different types of CBD oils and various products of cannabis origin, the social discussion on, how broad the drug policy should be, seems even more important.

In a paper, the author will try to show the tendencies of regulating drug usage in several states around the Baltic Sea. She would focus on comparing laws concerning cannabis, but also try to paint the whole picture of Poland's, Lithuania's, Latvia's and Estonia's drug policies. She will not only compare and describe the current situation, show the patterns, but also try to ask questions about the social problems related to cannabis in mentioned states.

[Language of presentation: English]

Gabrielė Aputytė

Vilnius University, BA student

Reportative in Lithuanian, Latvian, and Estonian original and translated fiction (a pilot study)

This paper discusses the use and translation of grammatical reportative in Lithuanian, Latvian, and Estonian fiction. The data corpus consists of three Latvian and Lithuanian novels (Alvydas Šlepikas, *Mano vardas – Marytė*, 2011; Jānis Jonevs, *Jelgava 94*, 2013; Nora Ikstena, *Mātes piens*, 2015) and their translations into Latvian, Lithuanian, and Estonian. A total of 143 constructions and their translations were analysed.

The study revealed that the reportative appears to be the most productive in Latvian: it is more frequently used both in the original texts and in the translations. In Lithuanian, it is the least productive: in the chosen Lithuanian novel, the reportative was not used at all, and only 15.4% of reportative forms used in the Latvian originals were translated by the reportative. However, some degree of productivity of the Lithuanian reportative is demonstrated by cases where reportative is found only in the Lithuanian translation and has no Latvian counterparts.

Estonian appears to fall somewhere in the middle in terms of productivity of reportative. The use of reportative in the Estonian translated texts correlates with the use of these forms in the original texts. One should note, however, that original Estonian fiction was not included in the data corpus.

[Language of presentation: English]

Ieva Auziņa

University of Latvia, MA student

ABOUT SOME UNPREFIXED AND PREFIXED VERB CONNECTIONS WITH PREPOSITIONS AND ADVERBS

In Latvian such prefix and unprefix verb constructions with preposition and adverb are used in parallel, where the prefix, adverb, and preposition are close in terms of the meaning.

The aim of the research is to study the connection between unprefix and prefix verb with prepositions and adverbs, to study the use of these constructions, reciprocal attitudes and semantics.

The novelty of the research is indicated by the fact that extensive systematic studies have not been conducted on the connection between prefix and prefix-free verb and preposition and/or adverb, their semantics, as well as the possible motivation for doubling the preposition and adverb.

The article examines constructions with the preposition *pār*, expressing spatial direction attitudes and which, in modern Latvian, have prefixes corresponding to the meaning *pār-*, as well as an adverb *pāri*.

The source of the examples analyzed in the work is written language on the Internet – microblogging site “Twitter”, news publications, comments on the Internet, “Web Corpus of Latvian Language” (Tīmeklis2020) (Web2020) and other sources where coverage of spoken language is available.

It has been observed that in cases when a prefix, adverb, and preposition of close meaning are used in the same sentence, it is easier to visualize what is being said, as if it is being “drawn” before the eyes, and such structures make the text more imaginative. The meaning of a verb plays an important role in what adverb or preposition it binds to itself. In the research, a tendency was observed that most of the time in constructions of prefix verb and unprefix verb, prepositions and adverb with verbs of motion of close meaning and of literal sense, are used.

Keywords: prefix verb, unprefix verb, preposition, adverb, semantics

[Language of presentation: Latvian]

Agnė Bernotaitė

University of Tartu, PhD student

Flâneuse in the Contemporary Lithuanian and Estonian Poetry

Based on a master's thesis in progress, the presentation offers a closer look at the flâneuse, the independent and interdependent female urban walker, and its manifestations in most recent Baltic poetry. While there undoubtedly are examples of flâneuse depicted both in fictional accounts of prose and autobiographical essay collections of Baltic women authors, it is diving into contemporary (late 20th century – first decades of 21st century) Lithuanian and Estonian poetry written by women authors that allows us to explore the city from within, to explore and testify its historical past, its culture and lives of inhabitants, whether human or non-human, and their interactions. How does one experience a city, what is a city, or, more precisely, whose city it is? The poetry by Judita Vaičiūnaitė, Jurgita Jasponytė, Ieva Toleikytė, Maarja Pärtna (to name a few) might offer a perspective on the subject.

[Language of presentation: English]

Gabrielė Brazaitytė

Vilnius University, BA student

Atypical word formation in Lithuanian neology

This study analyzes cases of atypical word formation (abbreviation, lexical contamination, apophony, backformation), recorded in the Database of Lithuanian Neologisms, contamination being the most popular due to its incidence in English language, which has a great impact on Lithuanian neology. Although Lithuanian grammar acknowledges only morphemic derivation (prefixation, suffixation, compounding), it has been noticed that some contaminants, abbreviations, acronyms, contrary to popular opinion, might be considered as words, thus could be viewed as types of word formation, meaning that Lithuanian neology is also characterized by non-morphemic types of word formation.

[Language of presentation: English]

Rūta Bruževica

Tallinn University, PhD student

History of researching Medieval Artisan organisations in Latvia and Estonia - a path from then to now

Although neighboring and sharing common paths of history, Estonia and Latvia have developed several differences when it comes to the traditions of history research. These peculiarities are especially noticeable when looking at research done in the field of medieval history and in this case – artisan organizations in the largest cities of medieval Livonia – Riga and Tallinn.

Not only the ideological influences and academic traditions have shaped the paths of medieval history research in both countries. The availability and preservation of sources, as well as medieval topics in culture and museums, seem to be guiding the state of research and the importance of medieval history topics both among historians and society.

This presentation will offer insight into how the paths of Latvian and Estonian medieval historiography have shaped the current research of Medieval artisan organizations and lead the way for new methods and concepts in the future.

[Language of presentation: English]

Martynas Butkus

Vytautas Magnus University, PhD student

Lithuanian youth organisations before the First World War: the roots of civil society

Even though at the beginning of the 20th century Lithuanian youth organizations were not legal, after the Revolution of 1905 in the Lithuanian governorates of the Russian Empire conditions for creating cultural and educational Lithuanian societies significantly improved. Catholic movement and leftist or liberal organisations started to compete with each other and create youth organisations. This presentation aims to explain how these youth organisations were founded, what was the attitude of tsarist officials towards them, what was their contribution to society and how they taught young people to be a part of organisation. The struggles and successes of Lithuanian youth organisation between the 1905 Revolution and WW1 can reveal a lot about the difficulties of accumulating social capital and necessary steps towards civil society. Also, by looking into the beginnings of the youth organisations one can grasp what Lithuanian society was deprived of by tsarist policies in the second half of the 19th century.

[Language of presentation: English]

Lote Katrīna Cērpa

Latvian Academy of Culture, Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies

The Role of Built Cultural Heritage in the sustainable development of territory. Case Studies of Laidi and Ķimale Manors

Currently in Latvia, with the closure of schools, which have been in manor buildings, issues have been raised about the potential development opportunities of manors as tangible cultural heritage, types of maintenance and management. Tangible cultural heritage has the potential to contribute to the sustainable development of territory, but it depends on the principles how tangible cultural heritage sites (manors) are being operated, the purposes of development, the types of owners. This paper explores the link between the tangible cultural heritage (manor) and the sustainable development of the territory, offers examples of the connection between Laidi and Ķimale manors and the sustainable development of the territories, examines which principles that can be observed in the ways how manors are operated enable manors to become a driving force for sustainable development of territory. The theoretical part of this paper is based on theories and documents regarding the understanding of the concept of tangible cultural heritage within the international and Latvian legal framework, the concept of sustainable development, its pillars, the role of tangible cultural heritage in the sustainable development of the territory. It describes and analyses the principles of how Laidi and Ķimale manors are being operated, empirical data is gathered using in-depth semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions, thematic analysis of this data offers understanding of the connection between activities in the manors and the sustainable development of territories

where they are located. It can be concluded (and will be examined more in the paper) that Ķimale Manor contributes to the sustainable development of territory in the context of the economic and environmental pillars, while Laidi manor in the context of the cultural and societal pillar.

[Language of presentation: English]

Jindřich Čeladín

Masaryk University, PhD student

The Coronation of the Painting of the Sapieha Madonna in Vilnius in 1750

In 1989, while the recently recovered Cathedral was being decorated with sacred art, an image of the Blessed Virgin Mary with St Francis and St Bernardine was hung in the chapel that formerly belonged to the Goštautas Family. The so-called Sapieha Madonna was taken at that time from the Lithuanian Art Museum, where it had ended up after the closure of the Vilnius Church of St Michael, the family mausoleum built by Lew Sapieha (1557–1633). Before being moved to St Michael's, the painting hung in the Bernardine Church, where it was long renowned for special graces. The register of miracles related to the image begins in the 16th century. Crowns sent by Pope Benedict XIV were placed on the painting on September 8, 1750, making it one of the very first pictures of saints to be crowned in Lithuania. At one point during the Soviet era, this famous image seemed to have disappeared. It was found, however, rolled up in the attic of the Vilnius Cathedral, where the Lithuanian Art Museum had placed it for safekeeping. Upon rediscovery, the image once again captured the hearts of believers. Today the 16th century painting draws crowds of devout souls begging graces from the Mother of God. The votive offerings displayed on either side of the painting are tokens of appreciation left by those who have experienced special graces.

Coronation procession of the painting of the Blessed Virgin Mary from the church of St. Michael was unique and very ceremonial. Chancellor of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, castellan of Trakai, Jan Fridrich Sapieha (1680–1751) made sure that Pope Clement XII. issued permission to ceremoniously crown the miraculous image of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the church of St. Michael the Archangel. After the death of the Polish king August II. there was unrest in the country, so the coronation was not carried out. Many years later, since Benedict XIV. permission was obtained and indulgences granted for the whole coronation octave. September 8, 1750 was designated as the day of celebration, and Vilnius Bishop Michal Jan Zienkowicz was the main participant in the procession. In the presentation, we will describe the course of the coronation itself and also the religious situation in Baroque Vilnius in the middle of the 18th century. We will try to explain the significance of these coronations in the Baroque era in Lithuania.

[Language of presentation: English]

Wei-Chun Chiu

Doctor School, Pedagogical University of Cracow (Poland), PhD student

Taiwan Open Office in Lithuania: Comparing Taiwanese and Chinese reportage

Lithuania and Taiwan opened its first-ever representative office with each other in 2022 and 2021 respectively, showing a warming tie between the two, yet such a move infuriated China,

which thus imposed diplomatic and economic sanctions on Lithuania. This study aims to compare press release and news stories about this event from Taiwanese and Chinese government and media, using critical discourse analysis. Data are collected with keywords “Lithuania”, “Taiwan”, “representative office” and their equivalents from news sites of Taiwanese and Chinese news agency, media and government, dating after the announcement of exchange offices in 2021.

Analysis suggests that Taiwanese media stressed the value of democracy, economic cooperation and cited more reactions of the US, European countries and Beijing, while Chinese media, on the other hand, highlighted the one-China principle and “the US factor”.

[Language of presentation: English]

Elīza Dāldere

University of Latvia, MA student

Patterns of Episcopal Power in the Archbishopric of Riga in the 13th Century

Medieval Livonia was a faintly interconnected conglomeration of territories, that was ruled by land lords (*dominus terre*): the Archbishop of Riga, the Land master of the Teutonic Order and Danish king. Archbishopric of Riga emerged out of the rapid transformation caused by the discovery of the Baltics and crusades in the late twelfth and thirteenth century. Although christianisation and colonisation in the medieval Baltics is deeply researched, less attention has been paid to the political activities, influence, and power structure of Archbishops of Riga. The aim of the research is to explore the power patterns of episcopal power in the Archbishopric of Riga in the 13th Century. How archbishop of Riga created new institutions, power arrangements, performed political rituals, involved in social networks, and formed relationships with local elites in the newly created archbishopric of Riga?

[Language of presentation: English]

Rafał Darasz

University of Warsaw, PhD student

Script-related signs in Lithuanian Sign Language – preliminary results

Many different connections occur between written forms of spoken languages and signed languages. It results in loanwords, initialized signs, fingerspelling (Lepic 2015) or sign movement tracing a shape of a written character (Ktejik 2013). Initialised signs use a handshape which represents the first letter of a corresponding spoken language translation.

The aim of the study is to analyse the vocabulary of Lithuanian Sign Language (LGK) collected in the LGK Dictionary (<http://lgkz.ndt.lt>) in relation to script-related signs. Research methods used in Lepic (2015) were applied. First, signs with an alphabetic handshape were identified. Next came the process of determining which signs are initialized or other script-related signs by deciding whether their handshapes match the first letter of the sign's Lithuanian translation. One example is CUKRUS (sugar), where the C handshape is used. Also some tracing signs used to represent punctuation marks were noted, such as tracing "?" when signing KLAUSIMAS (question).

Ktejik M. (2013), Numeral incorporation in Japanese Sign Language, „Sign Language Studies” no.2, p. 186-210.

Lepic R. (2015), Motivation in Morphology: Lexical Patterns in ASL and English, UC San Diego, Electronic Theses and Dissertations: <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/5c38w519>.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

Kristina Ece

University of Latvia, PhD student

Emma Elisabeth Seesemann –Missionary from Latvia (Courland) to Africa – lessons from her work and life

The Lutheran church was the dominant at the western part of Russian Empire in the beginning of the 20th cent. There were very few opportunities for women of that area to be involved in church ministry. In my paper I argue that missionary service gave an opportunity for women from Kurzeme (Courland), both Baltic German and Latvian, to respond to the call of God and be involved in service through the case study of Emma Elisabeth Seesemann, the first female missionary from Courland, being called to Africa (1905-1914) as a teacher and linguist. Her ministry was one example of how mission helped to build cross-cultural bridges between Africa and Europe (Germany and Courland).

To give theological background for the missionary service of women, it also looks at the work of German missiologists Warnek, Christlieb and Schreiber. The study uses a historical comparative method, content analysis, and the hermeneutical method to interpret missionary's texts and those about her. This research adds to the general knowledge of Latvian Church history, as well as to the wider mission history of Europe.

[Language of presentation: English]

Sanita Duka

The Art Academy of Latvia, MA student

Staging the Controversial Political Discussions of the Time

The paper by Sanita Duka "Staging the Controversial Political Discussions of the Time: the Riga Workers' Theatre Case" will discuss the scene of the political theatre of the inter-war period in Latvia focusing on the case of the Riga Workers' Theatre (1926-1934). Art was a weapon in the fight for equal rights, social justice and a better future. Determined by leftist intellectuals, writers, artists and theatre professionals, the chosen repertoire directly commented on the current socio-political issues of the time. The innovative drama-making forms, brand-new theatre practices, and modernistic stage visuality made the Riga Workers' Theatre outstanding in the context of the local art scene. Taking as an example the production of "Mikumārdi" by Estonian playwright Hugo Raudsepp (premiere 1930) and comparing it with the staging of "The Spider" (1931) by the prominent Latvian writer Andrejs Upīts, the paper concludes that the topic of political theatre in the Baltics has to be re-examined.

[Language of presentation: English]

Justīne Fišere

University of Latvia; Riga History and Navigation Museum, PhD student

Insight into the emblems of the Riga Butcher Craft based on the Craft Inventory in the Collections of the Riga History and Navigation Museum

Emblem is a specific image of an idea which is assigned one meaning: its purpose is to communicate the necessary information to the relevant society visually – with the help of an image. Craft (Zünfte) emblems or craft signs (Zunftzeichen) have been known in Western Europe since the 14th century, while in Riga the first known craft emblems have been preserved from the 16th century.

The first emblems of the butcher craft in Western Europe can be found starting from the 14th century. In Riga the first known evidence of butchers' emblems has preserved from the 17th century. The most common motif of the butchers' emblem is the bull, often depicted in combination with the tools characteristic of the trade and later with the image of the lamb (Agnus Dei).

The Riga History and Navigation Museum has the largest collection of craft objects in Latvia. All objects of the butcher craft in the museum's collections will be used for the study. Objects will be systematized according to emblem images. An analysis of the emblems will be carried out with search for analogies in the German cultural space. The aim of the work is to identify the influence of local and foreign cultures on emblems, as well as changes in traditions under the influence of political, religious and social factors.

[Language of presentation: English]

Eimantas Garšauskas

Vilnius University, BA student

Poet and society in the diaries and memoirs of Justinas Marcinkevičius

Since the last decade of the twentieth century, there have been numerous attempts to reevaluate Lithuanian poet Justinas Marcinkevičius as a public figure. Many discussions revolve around his huge recognition both as a key national figure in Lithuania during the collapse of the Soviet Union and as a figure, who suited the official soviet ideology. However, many such polemics lack an in-depth view into the poets personality and scarcely touch upon the phenomenon of societal poet. This study takes a glimpse into the personality structure of Justinas Marcinkevičius by means of his diaries and memoirs in an attempt to trace his set modes of operation as a poet in the context of the Soviet and Post - Soviet Lithuanian society. The findings suggest that, nevertheless his success during both the soviet occupation and in independent Lithuania, Justinas Marcinkevičius, in his personal aims and societal recognition, shows signs of what could be called a romanticistic national poet.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

Dovilė Gavelytė

Vilnius University, BA student

Literature Maps of Places in the Works of Maironis and Juozas Aputis

The topic of this project is analysis and mapping of the place names used in the poetry of Maironis and the prose of Juozas Aputis. This is a topographical analysis of Maironis' collection of poems "Pavasario balsai" (The Voices of Spring) and J. Aputis' collection of short stories "Keleivio novelės" (Traveller's Novellas). The landscape of Lithuania is portrayed in the works of both authors, although both represent different genres and time periods. The two texts are analyzed separately. Toponyms are classified by their function within the text and analyzed in context. This is an interdisciplinary research project, combining humanities and geographic information systems (GIS). The interactive literature maps have been created using the program ArcGIS. The results of this project – maps, public visual materials – can be used in schools to teach about classic Lithuanian literature.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

Lingita Lina Henritiusa

University of Latvia, PhD student

The Semantics of Ethnonyms in the Perception of Contemporary Latvian Language Users

The aim of the paper is to reflect the semantics of the names of different nationalities in the perception of modern society. For this purpose, the author of the paper created a survey and asked users of various social networks (Twitter.com, Facebook.com, Draugiem.lv) to participate in it. The questionnaire was filled by 419 respondents. Respondents were identified not only in Latvia, but also by Latvians living abroad. Respondents had to evaluate 15 different concepts to assess whether the connotation of their messages was positive, neutral, negative or difficult to determine. The paper looks at 8 of the 15 suggested concepts: žīds (Yid), ebrejs (Jew), nēģeris (Nigger), melnādainais (black-skinned), čigāns (Gypsy), roms (Roman), krievs (Russian), krievvalodīgais (Russian speaking). The object of research is the data obtained in the questionnaire, the method of data analysis used is quantitative content analysis. Although nowadays Latvian linguists have indicated that the term nēģeris does not have a negative connotation, half of the respondents believe that this term has a negative message. That despite the fact that the term žīds has not had a negative connotation in the past, 71% of respondents indicated that it has a negative connotation today.

[Language of presentation: Latvian]

Diāna Hristenko

University of Latvia, PhD student

Soviet Church Has a Woman's Face: insight into Latvian and Estonian Evangelical Lutheran churches during the Stalinism Period.

World War II brought significant changes to the society of the Baltic states. Descending of the Iron Curtain left them on the side of the Soviet Union for almost 50 years, with social and economic sovietization as the primary processes affecting society. Factories, power plants,

new suburbs, and cities were built to serve Soviet politics and financial plans, but among them, churches still stood.

In 1950 for every 100 women, there were only 60 men; almost 40% were lost during the war and as casualties. That shifted the social situation towards more feminine problems and solutions, including church life. Soviet socialism promoted a gender-equal society where everybody could work hard enough and be socially, morally, and economically equivalent, resulting in women entering spheres that were not characteristic before.

The paper addresses the topic of everyday church life in Latvia and Estonia, using examples found in archives, press and literature to describe the woman's role. The paper would give an insight into church life on the grassroots level, less focusing on the church leadership and their relationships with sovietization, although some questions, for example, ordination, became a source of discussion among the higher clergy. By researching the early church sovietization, one can find answers or at least a grain of thought to church life tendencies and problems since regaining independence in the early 90ties.

Keywords: sovietization, soviet women, ordination of women, Stalinism

[Language of presentation: English]

Emilia Jarnutowska

University of Warsaw, MA student

Lithuania and Latvia in Polish periodicals in the collection of the National Library of Latvia

The subject of my presentation are articles about Lithuania and Latvia in Polish magazines in the 1960s-1990s, which are in the collection of the National Library of Latvia. There were interesting articles from various fields - from culture through sport to politics and geography. During my internship, I looked through such magazines as "Magazyn Polski", "Fotografia", "Meander" and "Sztuka".

[Language of presentation: English]

Monika Kazabuckaitė

Vilnius University, BA student

The plots of poems by Gintaras Grajauskas: meaning of the Other

Gintaras Grajauskas is one of the most distinctive poets of contemporary Lithuanian literature and is often described by literary critics by the epithet "Grajauskiškas", derived from his surname. The plots of poems by G. Grajauskas were chosen for the study as illustrative examples of both the author's poetic uniqueness and the tendency of contemporary Lithuanian lyric poetry to become more prosaic. A naive reading of these texts may make them seem difficult to understand. The study follows Juri Lotman's idea that plot creates meanings about life, and thus the plots of poems by G. Grajauskas must contain those meanings. This study uses a structuralist approach and analyses the parts of the plots of poems; the interpretation is made of the meanings created by the structure of the plot and the significance of the Other in the poem.

The research reaches conclusions about the meanings created by the plots of poems by G. Grajauskas about the life and feelings of a modern man.

Samanta Kietytė

Vilnius University, PhD student

The semantics of the Lithuanian prefix pra-: radial network

The object of presentation is the verbal derivatives of the Lithuanian prefix pra-. The prefix under study has a prototypical spatial meaning of movement by something (praėjo pro namą 'passed by the house'). The aim of this paper is to do a semantic analysis of the prefix, to identify the relations between its meanings and represent them in a radial network. The hypothesis of semantic overlap for the natural perfectives of the prefix pra- will also be tested. The methodological and theoretical basis of the research is the approach of cognitive linguistics. The semantic analysis of the researched derivatives led to the extraction of 17 meanings. The spatial meanings were identified by determining what is a trajector and landmark in the image schema, as well as the relationship between them. Other meanings are related to the spatial meanings through semantic motivation relations which are identified by distinguishing which elements correspond to the trajector and landmark. The work takes the view that there are no strict boundaries between meanings, but rather that they form a continuum and that their own internal structure has a centre and a periphery, i. e. some derivatives are more prototypical representatives of a given meaning than others.

[Language of presentation: English]

Gabija Kišonaitė

Vilnius University, BA student

Lithuanian satirist Juozas Erlickas – social critic

This presentation compares Juozas Erlickas' debut book "Kodėl?" (1979, en. "Why?") with the author's later work "Knyga" (1996, en. "Book"). The analysis focuses on the change and stability of the object, content and stylistic expression of the texts, tries to show how they reveal the realities of the late Soviet period and the first years of independence, the political situation and the social state. When considering to what extent works of J. Erlickas' present an objectified assessment of history, the realities of the mentioned periods will be looked at in a wider context. When discussing the interaction of J. Erlickas' texts with social reality, the parodic, satirical and ironic nature of the texts is explored. The analysis aims to find out how the interpretation of literary and cultural traditions, the deconstruction of identity, national and social stereotypes allow the author to assess the current affairs of Lithuania in the late Soviet period and the first years of independence.

[Language of presentation: English]

Maija Krūmiņa

University of Latvia, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, PhD student

Experience of Latvian Refugees in German territories in 1944/1945

During the Second World War, about 200,000 people fled Latvia and went in Westward direction. The historians have so far studied in depth the advance of the Red Army on the territory of Latvia and the subsequent implementation of the evacuation plans, but less attention has been paid to the detailed study of the escape process. The author of the report analyzes the opportunities provided by oral history sources in the research of this process, based on the life-story interviews of the National Oral History Collection and concentrating on the fate of refugees in the territory of the German Reich. The refugee experience in Germany has both common features and differences, because they were both placed and went for themselves to various places of the Reich; part spent the entire time in one place of residence, leading a rather peaceful everyday life, while others were forced to look for places of refuge and livelihood over and over again. The report is prepared within the Project "Strengthening of the capacity of doctoral studies at the University of Latvia within the framework of the new doctoral model", identification No. 8.2.2.0/20/1/006.

[Language of presentation: English]

Momoka Kushida

Ventspils University of Applied Sciences, MA student

Perception of Latvian Literature and Culture in Japan: Translations from Latvian into Japanese

In my Master's thesis, I deal with aims to point out, from a Japanese perspective, the current problems that Latvia faces in building good relations with Japan, especially regarding translation and image, to offer some advice, in conclusion, to make the Latvian side aware of what they should be aware of for the country and culture of Latvia to be well accepted by the Japanese people and to encourage Latvia to rethink Latvianness. The research consists of three chapters; Chapter 1 looks at the theoretical aspects of this study. Chapter 2 discusses the aspects of Translation. In Chapter 3, the aspects of the image are treated. And it consists of 9 conclusions and 14 recommendations. As the research method, data collection methods like analysis of literature, online research, the survey, and interviews were conducted and the data proceed methods like contrastive analysis and content analysis were used. This research could be continued in the future.

Keywords:

Latvian and Japanese, Image, Perception, Translation, Latvianness, Intercultural Communication Competence, Orientalism

[Language of presentation: English]

Nora Lapinskaitė

Vilnius University, MA student

Resemiotization of Multimodal Discourse

The project deals with the topical issue of multimodality as a phenomenon and research approach, which discusses the issues of representation and communication from a semiotic

perspective. In the age of mass communication, the focus on the multimodality, understood as the combination of different types of signs, modes, and channels, is driven by global social, cultural, and technological changes. The research deals with a global challenge of the unconscious transformation of meaning through changing media. The research focuses on the concept developed by Gunther Kress and Theo van Leeuwen in multimodality studies. This is complemented by the issue of resemiotization and extended by (1) the notion of communication developed in semiotics, explaining communication as a non-linear process complicated by the mismatch of the sender's and the receiver's codes, and (2) the semiotic theory of modalities by Lars Elleström. By considering issues of representation and communication from a semiotic perspective, this project seeks to discuss the change in the reader's relationship to the text and the processes of meaning making and articulate the method of synthetic multimodal analysis, which can be applied in further case studies.

[Language of presentation: English]

Ana Marić

University of Tartu, MA student

FOREST AS "THE SANCTUARY" OF ESTONIAN FOLKLORE AND HERITAGE: PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF FOREST CHARACTERISTICS IN ESTONIAN FAIRY TALES AND FOLK TALES

Forest is one of the main components of Estonian culture, tradition and everyday life. Motives of forest and forest life inspired people of olden days to create and tell stories; so the forest influenced Estonian folklore and literature a lot and it became a huge part of both cultural identity, memory and heritage of Estonian nation.

In this paper, the main base of research will be the book "Deep in the forest: One hundred Estonian fairy tales about the forest and its people"; a collection of folk tales and stories composed by Estonian folklorist Risto Järv. Forest and its main characteristics and functions will be analyzed through next concepts: the relation between the forest and the characters in the folk tales and how the characters perceive the forest; the beings and creatures which live in the forest and their role in the forest and the significance of the forest in the contemporary culture of Estonia and how do these stories and forest interpretation reflect in everyday life of Estonian people today. The methods which will be applied in this paper are Juri Lotman's concept of semiosphere and semiotics of culture and Jakob von Uexküll's theory of magical Umwelt in order to establish the meaning carriers behind the forest in Estonian tradition and to demonstrate the connection between the old times of stories and the contemporary time in the cultural heritage of Estonia.

[Language of presentation: English]

Vilius Mingilas

The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore, PhD student

The Mythical Journey of the Hero in Sigita Geda's Cycle of Hymns 26 Songs of Autumn and Summer

In this presentation will be analyzed the narrative structure of Cycle of Hymns of 26 Songs of Autumn and Summer by the modern Lithuanian poet Sigita Geda. In his work, Geda combines

archaic symbols and plots of various mythological systems with images of modern culture. Using the concept of binary opposition, which was applied to myth research by Claude Lévi-Strauss, and the method of narrative discourse analysis, the report will highlight the mythical structure of the hero's journey performed by the subject of "Hymns of autumn". Also the narrative paradigm of Joseph Campbell's archetypal hero will allow the journey of the subject divide into parts of crossing the threshold between everyday and mythical space, traveling to the centers of heaven and underworld realms, and returning home. The journey to the spaces of heaven and underworld encompasses the entire structure of the mythical universe and repeats the primordial cycle of life-death-rebirth archetype.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

Indrė Nugaraitė

Stockholm University, PhD student

A bridge between Lithuania and Europe: Presentation of Vasario 16-osios gymnasium in its Yearbooks.

Vasario 16-osios gimnazija is a bilingual German - Lithuanian school in Germany. Once a year, it releases a Yearbook (Jahrbuch / Metraštis), which is written by the students and the staff of the school and presents the main activities and events that happened throughout the year. For the students, teachers and parents, these Yearbooks are a way to preserve the beautiful memories of fun and interesting community events. For the sponsors, it is a way to receive information on how their investments are used, and for the school, it is one of the main means to remain in contact with the Lithuanian community that is spread across Europe. By releasing the Yearbook, the creators participate in a particular discourse system, which we might call the "Yearbook discourse" system. It can be broken down to smaller discourses that are entangled with each other in many different ways and form relationships that are invisible to a naked eye but can be explored through the lens of nexus analysis (Scollon and Scollon 2004). This project looks at the introductory pages of the Yearbooks and aims to determine how the school is presented, what dominant themes and patterns emerge in the Yearbooks, and how do they relate to each other and to broader cultural and social trends.

Keywords: Vasario 16-osios gimnazija, nexus analysis, discourse systems.

References:

Scollon, R. and Suzie Wong Scollon. 2004. *Nexus Analysis: Discourse and the Emerging Internet*. New York: Routledge.

[Language of presentation: English]

Martin Nõmm

University of Tartu, PhD student

Where do we go from here? A survey of Estonian and Latvian exile short stories from the 1960s

The Estonian and Latvian post-WWII diasporas, the exile communities that emerged following the Soviet occupation of their respective homelands in the 1940s, cultivated vibrant cultural movements, often characterised by preserving traditions of homeland. Twenty years later, in the 1960s, Baltic exile literatures were at their height in terms of publication and also spurred on younger authors' desire to explore new ideas and modes of artistic expression. Connecting

to this, there emerged the question of whether an exile writer should write solely for the exile community and in its language. In this paper I will examine selected short stories from the young Estonian authors' collection "Tont teab" (1968) and the English language Latvian anthology "Latvian Literature" (1964). Common themes within these works are representations of nostalgia and belonging (or lack thereof), reflecting on the loss and in-betweenness of the exilic experience, as well as themes of rebellion and renewal more emblematic to the younger generation authors.

[Language of presentation: English]

Rihards Ošeniņš

Latvian Academy of Culture, BA student

"Experience of the Past and Self-fashioning in Soviet Latvia and Estonia in the 1960s: Alberts Bells's novel "The Investigator" (1967) and Raimond Kaugver's novel "Forty Candles" (1966)

The aim of this research is to investigate the depiction of experience of the past and self-fashioning in these novels. In the 1960s, Latvia and Estonia were part of the USSR, whose governing in these territories was characteristic of colonial rule. By applying the insights of postcolonial theory, the colonial experience of Latvia and Estonia is substantiated. Particular attention is paid to the problem of historical interpretation in colonial discourse and Soviet modernity. Analysis of the works of Alberts Bels and Raimond Kaugver is based on the framework of the New Historicist approach. 'Self-fashioning' is a concept related to the New Historicism approach, which seeks to identify cultural codes and power relations of the examined culture and historical period by exploring the ways in which identity was represented. The results show that in the 1960s, the limits of the possibilities for representing past experiences were set by the official colonial discourse, but one can notice attempts to provide a more alternative interpretation of past events through means typical of fiction literature. There is a strict split between public and private identity, which indicates a dissonance between the discourse of Soviet modernity and the real experience of colonial subjects.

[Language of presentation: English]

Sabīne Ozola

Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of the Latvian Academy of Culture

Digital Content Subscription Platforms as Art Distribution Channels: Opportunities and Challenges for the 21st Century Latvian Artist on Patreon

Technological advancements, digitization, and the widespread use of the Internet have promoted new ways for artists to create, promote, and distribute their art through digital art distribution channels. This research paper focuses on an analysis of the platform Patreon, which operates on a subscription-based model, providing supporters with access to artistic content in exchange for monthly payments. As part of the study, 9 semi-structured in-depth interviews were conducted with Latvian artists who use the Patreon platform. The aim of the paper is to explore the various ways in which Latvian artists employ the content subscription

platform Patreon as a means of distributing their artwork, and to investigate the potential transformative effects this platform may have on an artist's activities within the digital realm.

[Language of presentation: English]

Kamilė Pavydytė

Vilnius University, MA student

ChatGPT as a tool for lexicographical work in Lithuanian and German

ChatGPT is a recent tool which simulates a real time dialogue by giving answers to any given request. It has already received much attention in many fields of science, although still not so much research has incorporated said tool and humanities – or, more specifically, research with a focus on ChatGPT and applied linguistics. The object of this paper is the tool ChatGPT itself as an instrument for lexicographical work. The aim is to observe and analyse the scope of options in ChatGPT if a request for creating a dictionary entry is given in both Lithuanian and German languages. Advantages and disadvantages of ChatGPT as a lexicographical tool and its future prospects will be further evaluated while comparing the quality of presented dictionary entries in Lithuanian and German languages. This paper provides a new insight on combining an AI-tool with the field of electronic lexicography. The findings of this paper might be useful for linguists (working with German or/and Lithuanian) and especially lexicographers, since the lengthy process of lexicographical work might be accelerated.

[Language of presentation: English]

Martynas Pumputis

Vilnius University, MA student

Literary Criticism of Sigitas Parulskis at the Break of the End of 20th Century

The topic of final thesis is Literary Criticism of Sigitas Parulskis at the Break of the End of 20th Century. The aim is to identify S. Parulskis' relationship with different generations of writers and critics, the stylistic features of his critical texts, and the criteria of evaluation. Using descriptive and analytical methods, the work covers about one and a half hundred texts from the cultural press published in the 1990s.

It was discovered that S. Parulskis is not trying to establish new generational or genre related hierarchies, but the texts are polemical. Often contradictory to established figures of Lithuanian literary criticism. Also, essayistic style, irony, sarcasm, explicit language is prominent in the texts, but the basis coincides with academic criticism – evaluation and analysis are used. The main criteria are originality, convincingness of the work reviewed and author's language sensibility.

[Language of presentation: English]

Kamilė Raudoniūtė

Vilnius University, BA student

The Change of Socialist Collectives in Mono Industrial Towns: the Case of Naujoji Akmenė

This paper explores changes in socialist collectives within mono-industrial towns. As the Lithuanian mono-industrial towns have been mostly investigated in the context of ethnic composition, this paper focuses on the specific factory. The aim is to analyse how socialist collectives were formed and how they changed during the post-communist transformation. To answer the research question, 24 biographical interviews have been collected and analysed by combining Sarah Ashwin's socialist collective and Joanna Wawrzyniak's post-communist theories. A case study of Naujoji Akmenė reveals collectives shaped by informal rules, impacting work and daily life. Post-1990, two trends emerge: highlighting the systematic flaws or longing for a sense of togetherness and material security. Finally, this study demonstrates the uniqueness of Lithuanian mono-industrial towns – the motive of nationhood was important for the composition of social collectives both during the Soviet era and transformation.

[Language of presentation: Lithuanian]

Laura Sakalauskaitė

Vilnius University, BA student

Suffixation tendencies of women's maiden surnames in the town of Ramygala in 1922-1928

The main object of this work is the suffixation tendencies of women's maiden surnames. The aim is to find out how many women's maiden surnames were formed by typical suffixation of surnames and what are the atypical cases compared to women's maiden surnames suffixation principles of today. This particular topic was chosen because only a few works deal with the naming of women in Lithuania, especially the specifics of maiden surnames, therefore, this work may help gaining a deeper understanding of women's maiden surnames formation system. The source for this research was the marriage registry book of the town of Ramygala, which gives data from 1922 to 1928. The research was conducted using quantitative and descriptive methods.

Research revealed that most women's maiden surnames were formed by typical suffixation of surnames, thus, the research data of the studied area supports the notion that the system of surname's suffixation has not changed much since then. But also, some surnames were formed in an atypical way that we are not used to today, therefore, it shows that some strategies of surnames suffixation are no longer used. For instance, the father's surname is Jankevičius, but his daughter's surname is Jankevičaitė and not Jankevičiūtė, or the father's surname is Žurkauskas, but his daughter's surname is Žurkauskytė and not Žurkauskaitė. It indicates that at the beginning of the 20th century, the dialect greatly influenced the suffixation of women's maiden surnames.

[Language of presentation: English]

Anna Sedlackova

University of Helsinki

The vitality of minority languages in the Baltics with a special focus on Karaim and Livonian

Language policies in the Baltics usually spark heated debates. But what about minority languages and their vitality? What is their position and what is being done to preserve them? In my talk I will primarily focus on the vitality of Karaim and Livonian. The number of Karaim speakers in Lithuania is in constant decline, while the Crimean dialect of Karaim is considered extinct. Livonian is considered extinct already since 2013, when the last native speaker died. However, thanks to the enthusiasm and revitalization efforts of language activists, there seems to be a promising base of L2 speakers and currently one native speaker. The main achievements of the revitalization processes will be presented in the talk, together with an insight into the current situation of other minority languages of the region.

[Language of presentation: English]

Orsolya Sild

University of Tartu, MA student

Apologising in the Tatar language spoken in Finland and Estonia

This talk focuses on the speech act of apologising in the Tatar language spoken in the Baltic Sea Region, specifically in Finland and Estonia. The research dataset comprises 2 hours and 23 minutes of audio material, where Tatar speakers of Finland and Estonia carry out different role-play scenarios. These role-plays were conducted in groups of three Tatar speakers from the same region, representing diverse age groups. In this talk, I analyse actions of apologizing identified in the research material through the Tatar expression *gafu* [forgiveness, pardon] and its dialectal form *afu*. The initial findings reveal generational and regional differences, especially in the usage of intensifiers and auxiliary verbs accompanied by the analysed expression.

[Language of presentation: English]

Márk Sima

Pedagogical University of Kraków, PhD student

The Geo-body of Lithuanian nationalism

The research of nationalism is not a subject only for history and sociology but through an interdisciplinary understanding of the problem it can be examined by Geography because nationalism and nation-building require a definition of national territory. Human Geography and Cartography is suitable for analyzing spatial concepts which describe the geo-image of a national territory. Beyond geo-images, we can examine the geo-body of the nation which describes something that is more than just territory. The concept of Geo-body also contains the people living on the territory, climate, flora and fauna, and important sites of memory.

The case study of Lithuanian nationalism offers a suitable subject for research since the lack of statehood in 19th century and the frequently changing borders of earlier periods created much room for interpretations of national territory. The often-changing definition of "Lithuania" attracted the attention of geographers and historians too. Definitions based on geographical, ethnic, linguistic, ethnographic, historical concepts emerged to address the problem. To

understand how the spatial concepts of the Lithuanian national movement were created we must analyze and contextualize cartographical works, texts, and ideas of influential figures connected to the national movements. By examining these sources, we can recreate the ideas behind the imagined national territory, and through the model of Geo-body we can recreate understand the spatial concepts of Lithuanian nationalism in an even more abstract way. In my research I aim to present how nationalism can be understood as a spatial concept and how we can research the spatial concept of a national movement through examining the Lithuanian nationalism. Understanding nationalism through spatial concepts is a unique approach to nationalism. It does not only help us recreate how the ideas of national territory were developing but also gives us an insight into the general characteristics of nationalism.

[Language of presentation: English]

Anastasija Smirnova

Museum of the History of Riga and Navigation/University of Latvia, PhD student

Adult asylums in Riga - When? Where? Why? (late 19th century- 1940)

European Social care policy developed in three ways- private charity organisations, municipal social care, and state social care after WWI. In 19th Ct., urbanised and industrialised Riga was one of the empire's cities where the Prussian Elberfeld social care system was incorporated. It was the first level of developing a future national social care policy in Latvia. However, only those in need registered in Riga could apply for municipal social help in 19th Ct. Therefore, Latvians, Jews, Russians and other minorities achieved social help by establishing charity organisations. Meanwhile, one of the features of the Social Welfare Department of the inter-war Riga Municipality was the division of the inmates of social welfare institutions according to national and religious affiliation, a legacy of the tradition of the asylums founded in the 19th century. The paper aims to analyse the development of adult social care institutions from the establishment until the occupation of Latvia.

[Language of presentation: English]

Rain Soosaar

University of Tartu, PhD student

Religious life in parishes of Rūjiena and Halliste in 1920s and 1930s

Neighboring parishes of Rūjiena (Latvia) and Halliste (Estonia) experienced similar challenges in interwar years. Religion and church were becoming increasingly irrelevant to the locals, even though some religious ceremonies still attracted large crowds and pastors were still influential public figures. However, adaptation to the changing social and political situation in newly independent nation states proved extraordinarily complicated due to conservative Baltic German heritage. In addition, class-based political tensions in the region were higher than elsewhere in Estonia in Latvia, and it influenced also congregational life. Finally, in both parishes charismatic, but also controversial pastors gained remarkable popularity. However, differences in political background between Estonia and Latvia, as well as in personalities of pastors led also to some significant differences in religious life of Rūjiena and Halliste.

[Language of presentation: English]

Arnita Agrita Umalas

University of Tartu, MA student

The influence of Latvian and Russian as mother tongue on the use of verb rection (government) in Estonian

The aim of this paper, which is also my bachelor's thesis „The influence of Latvian and Russian as mother tongue on the use of verb rection in Estonian“ is to show that the native language and other acquired languages influence the perception and use of grammar and to explain how Latvian and Russian as native languages influence the use of verb rection in Estonian. 13 students' works on the use of verb rection were analyzed from an interlanguage perspective. The analysis of these papers shows that the native language influences the use of Estonian and that even when a person was sure that they had answered correctly, the logical rection of the native language was used instead of the correct rection in Estonian. Works analyzed include comments and markings from students themselves, explaining their thought process.

[Language of presentation: English]