

JĘZYKOZNAWSTWO

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**ON MANIFESTATIONS OF THE INFLUENCE
OF GLOBALIZATION ON POLISH AND RUSSIAN
LANGUAGES. RESEARCH INTENTIONS**

**O przejawach wpływu globalizacji na język polski i rosyjski
(na materiale wybranych periodyków). Zamierzenia badawcze**

STRESZCZENIE: W artykule przedstawiono koncepcję projektu naukowego poświęconego badaniom wpływu globalizacji na języki słowiańskie – polski i rosyjski. Problematyka wpływu globalizacji na języki słowiańskie jest aktualnym, ciekawym zagadnieniem, ale wciąż mało poznanym, co wykazały kwerendy biblioteczne przeprowadzone w Polsce i za granicą. Projekt ten ma na celu poznanie prawidłowości i tendencji rozwoju dwu języków słowiańskich w nowych warunkach społeczno-politycznych i gospodarczych, w jakich znalazły się Polska i Rosja na początku lat 90. XX w. Upadek ustroju komunistycznego i systemu centralnie zarządzanej gospodarki państwowej umożliwiły włączenie się wspomnianych państw w procesy globalizacyjne, które z kolei wywołały zmiany w obyczajowości dwóch narodów, ich kulturze i języku. Istotą projektu jest rejestracja oraz kompleksowa analiza lingwistyczna różnego typu zapożyczeń i pochodnych od nich formacji słowotwórczych. Przeprowadzone badania pozwolą lepiej poznać historię języka polskiego i rosyjskiego, przyczynią się do rozwoju językoznawstwa polskiego i rosyjskiego, językoznawstwa konfrontatywnego, a także nauki o kontaktach językowych. Projekt dostarczy również nowych informacji na temat globalizacji poznanej z perspektywy języka, uzupełniając dotychczasową wiedzę nauk społecznych o globalizacji jako zjawisku cywilizacyjnym.

KEYWORDS: globalization, evolution of language, Americanization of culture and language, Slavonic languages, borrowing words

1. Research Goal of the Project and Hypotheses

The course of the previous several decades has been dominated by globalization, a phenomenon which can perhaps most simply be defined as a process of the shrinking of the world and the integration of countries economically, politically and culturally under the clear domination of Western models. The driving force behind globalization, as experts assert, was the economic initiative of American business, motivated by the drive for a global liberalized free market, unrestricted by nominal national boundaries, in which the flow of goods, services and finance would be easy. For this reason, globalization has been studied primarily from an economic perspective, examining both its positive and negative effects (cf. e.g. Zybala 2004, Wielgosz 2004, Zorska 2007, Michałków 2003, Szymaniak 2008, Gwiazda 1998). Over the years, changes brought about by globalization have been discernible in other fields, as well. Observers and academics researching the process write of an excessive economization of life, that is, of the preponderance of material values over cultural and personal, non-material values (Zybala 2004), of the raising of generations of consumers – people attuned to entertainment and entirely uninhibited consumption (Wielgosz 2004, Bauman 2007, Łagoda 2005, Bogunia-Borowska, Śleboda 2003), as well as unfavorable individualistic developments, which have affected contemporary people: extreme egoism, anti-socialization and “perfect rationalists” (Wielgosz 2004, Zybala 2004). Globalization has an ecological dimension as well. The increasing global population, uncanny advances in technology and science as well as the development of industry consistently lead to the depletion of natural resources as well as environmental degradation (Wosińska 2008, Jankowska 2003, Czerny, Łuczak, Makowski 2007, Pietraś, Olchowski 2002). “Globalized” also is culture, an integral part of which is language (on globalization in culture and language cf. e.g. Bauman 2011, Appadurai 2005, Ziętek 2002, Krzysztofek 2002, Bodzioch-Bryła, Szczepaniak, Wałczyk 2010, Duszak, Okulska 2004).

Language is something influenced by globalization and consequently, clearly reflects this process. Particularly distinct traces of globalization are apparent in Slavonic languages, into which many borrowings from English have appeared in recent years (the language of globalization being English). The intensity of the importation of loan words has increased significantly in the past twenty years. It can be observed in weekly magazines, literature and academic press, as well as on the radio and Internet. These borrowings are (1) lexical units (e.g. *event*, *afterparty*, *deal*, *plug-in*, *tipping point*, *play station*, *dress code* into Polish and *лузер*, *юзер*, *фрилансер*, *фронтмэн*, *флаер*, *мэсидж* into Russian (cf. the corresponding English words: *loser*, *user*, *freelancer*, *frontman*, *flyer*, *message*); (2) syntactical constructions, e.g. the manner of expressing dates in Russian: under the influence of English syntactical construction, one has begun to say “Evro – 20–12” with

the division of the name of the year into two pairs of numbers, as is typical in the English language; as well as (3) grammatical morphemes, with the help of which neologisms are formed in Polish and in Russian (cf. e.g. the use of the morpheme *-ing* in such Polish expressions as *rowering* (from *rower* – ‘bike’) and *łomżing* (from *Łomża* – name of Polish city and Polish beer).

Thus, the goal of this project is an analysis and description of the changes occurring in select Slavonic languages under the process of globalization.

These changes occurring in Slavonic languages have been noticed and have opened up a discussion in recent years in which politicians, academics, and social activists have taken part. Worthy of note, for example, is Vladimir Žirinovskij, the known Russian politician, leader of the Liberal-Democratic Party, for many years the vice chairman of the State Duma (the lower house of the legislature), who in January 2013 introduced an initiative to prohibit the use of Americanisms in the Russian media, much as there is a ban on the use of colloquial vulgar language – the Russian *mat*. One year earlier, a public service announcement aired on Polish television over a period of six months encouraging people to defend their native language in the face of widespread Americanization. The phrase: “Polszczyzna – dodaj do ulubionych!” (“Polishness – add this to your favorites!”) was a slogan reminiscent of an advertising campaign. The suggestive title of a book by the Russian linguist, Maxim Krongauz, *Русский язык на грани нервного срыва* [2008] (*The Russian Language on the Edge of a Nervous Breakdown*), similarly testifies to the fact that we are currently living through an exceptional period in which language is undergoing grammatical and lexical changes that are anything but trivial.

The results of these changes may be very serious. Academics from various fields – historians, cultural anthropologists, sociologists, political scientists – are in agreement that globalization defined as the spread of patterns from the West to other, unprotected civilizations leads to the creation of hybrid forms on the basis of local cultures and national languages.

Consequently, I propose the following hypothesis, which I hope to either confirm or refute in the process of the research project:

- A) Since the beginning of the globalization process, a large number of borrowings from English have appeared in Slavonic languages (Polish and Russian), and the pace of this phenomenon has increased significantly in recent years compared with the early phase.
- B) In the past two decades, the character of the borrowings has changed. Currently, it would seem, the migration of lexis occurs spontaneously. The words borrowed are not only scientific terminology or names of new technology or devices (along with those devices or technologies), but also phrases and expressions “for everyday use”.

C) In the Slavonic languages selected for study, a tendency toward hybridization¹ has arisen on various linguistic levels (at the word or sentence level).

2. Concept and Research Outline

The subject of the planned study is general changes in two Slavonic languages – Polish and Russian, in their written variants. These languages have been subject to the influence of globalization for more or less the same length of time, for the historic political and economic changes affected Poland and Russia simultaneously, these of course being the fall of Communism in Europe, the symbols of which were the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and the disintegration of the Soviet Union – the pillar of socialism – in 1991. These events opened up a new historical stage in the development of Poland and Russia as well as a new stage of economic development for these countries, namely the switch to a market economy based on private property. These developments also without doubt caused these countries to be integrated into the process of globalization.

The main source material for the planned study are press texts published in Polish and Russian magazines and newspapers with a socio-political focus. In Polish, “Polityka” and “Gazeta Wyborcza” have been selected, and in Russian, “Ogonëk” (“Огонëк”) and “Argumenty i fakty” (“Аргументы и факты”). The choice of sources and titles is not accidental. First, these publications are distributed nationally (throughout Poland and throughout Russia) and were published continuously through the entire period in question, having survived certain shocks in the lives of both countries, such as shifts in political power as well as the economic transformation of the early 1990s, the financial crisis in Russia in 1998, after which the state declared bankruptcy, as well as the global economic crisis of 2008 with its global reach. Full collections of the periodicals available in libraries will enable us the systematic extraction of linguistic material for research, and only such material will allow us to meet the particular research goals outlined in this proposal. Secondly, the language of the press (in contrast to other common variants of the language) reacts spontaneously and quickly to changes proceeding from society, its customs and culture, and accurately reflects novelties appearing in social discourse. It is in

¹ The term hybridization was derived from another term – hybrid, that should be referred in order to explain the first one. Hybrid is such a borrowing, whose components come from different languages, e. g. *zabukować* (a table in a restaurant), *telewizja*. In the 1950s–1980s this term was rather used in relation to individual words. Currently, it has expanded its scope, because it refers to units from different language levels – words, combinations of words, sentences (e.g. *pizza party*, *ktoś/coś jest na topie*; *Biała koszula to kobiecy must have tego sezonu*). Therefore, hybridization should be understood as a process of intensive absorption of elements of foreign origin by a given language (different levels of its structure).

fact journalism – as studies have shown (e.g. L. Krysin 1968, E. Mańczak-Wohlfeld 2006) – that constitutes one of the most important “mediators” in the migration of words from one language to another. Thirdly, the magazines and newspapers chosen as sources of the material in question have a similar character. They are high-circulation titles, popular among readers and maintain a leading position in sales compared to other Polish and Russian periodicals. They are characterized by their diverse nature, and yet share thematic convergences. They also have similar readerships: people with higher or secondary education, who work, earning middle to high incomes. It would seem, then, that the research will be based on relatively similar source material.

3. The Study Period

A precise determination of the period to be studied, and with it, the years of the periodicals to be analyzed, is directly dependent on the temporal definition of the period of globalization. There are various theories regarding the beginnings of this process and its periodization. Most commonly, the chronology accepted by researchers is directly linked with what they regard as the essential feature of the phenomenon. Some researchers define globalization too broadly, and propose definitions such as, for example, the following one: “the aspiration to overcome borders and distance, to master foreign experiences, to imitate compelling patterns, to blend systems of knowledge, social and political models and cultural values” [Czerwonnaja 2005: 222]. Understood in this way, globalization “has always had its place in history” [Czerwonnaja 2005: 221]. This position seems rather extreme, and does not take into account economic factors, namely that the internationalization of the economy only became possible in the 1990s. It does not take into account other important factors, for example the scientific-technological revolution, which also began in the mid-1990s and without a doubt has been a driving force of globalization. (For the process of which S. Czerwonnaja writes, there is another name – diffusionism – and it has indeed always accompanied the development of human civilization). I belong to the scholars who believe that the early 1990s were the beginning of globalization in Poland and Russia. It was precisely at this time that Poland and Russia underwent political, economic and socio-cultural changes which made the inclusion of these countries in the process of globalization possible. It was precisely in this period that the United States and the countries of Western Europe made significant discoveries in the areas of information technology, the Internet and telecommunications, owing to which the processes of globalization increased their pace and encompassed the entire globe. Consequently, the subject of interest for this study is press texts published in the period of the 25 years between 1990 and 2015. In 2015, I plan to close the collection of source samples and to begin analysis and evaluation of the findings.

4. Current State of Scholarship

There exists a wealth of literature on the topic of globalization, its genesis, progress, and effects, both in Polish and in other languages. The great majority of publications have to do with the economic aspects of this phenomenon: of the situation of this or another country in the new political and economic realities and the chances it has for survival. Analyzing globalization in the area of culture, observers of the process write of changes in the values system of a given culture or another, in lifestyle, in customs, and in consumption patterns. These observers sometimes use alternate names for the process of globalization, in an attempt to simultaneously grasp its character (e.g. westernization or Americanization) or to express their – negative – view (e.g. McDonaldisation or Coca-Colaization). Various terms are used by scholars with the goal of defining more precisely the changes brought about by globalization in culture and language. Here one speaks of the intersections between various cultures and languages, of unification / universalization / uniformization of cultures and languages, of their homogenization and hybridization. Aside from such general labels, the processes at work in language have not received any satisfying explanation in the academic literature to date, and yet the necessity of such arises from general questions regarding the evolution of language.

In order to survey the literature in linguistics discussing the problem of the influence of globalization in Slavonic languages, I surveyed library collections in Poland, in Russia, and in Ukraine. It may be concluded with some certainty that this question has been the subject of only very little academic research to date. Only two titles were found that touch on the question of globalization in language. The first, the monograph by W. Wosińska entitled *Oblicza globalizacji (The Faces of Globalization)* – which appeared in 2008), devotes only one chapter of 37 pages to the topic. The author, who is a researcher in social and intercultural psychology, approaches the question of globalization from this perspective, and does not conduct research in linguistics, only sketching out the problem of the Americanization of language (not only Slavonic languages) in a globalized world. The second title is a nine-page, purely theoretical article by E. Lotko, *O globalizacji na gruncie językoznawstwa (On globalization on the basis of linguistics)*, 2003), in which the author considers the possible causes of globalization, its tools and expressions in language as well as the possible prognosis for its further development. Both works are far from a systematic analysis of the linguistic changes evident at the turn of the century, indicating the need for research of globalization in language.

That there has been no systematic treatment of this topic can be plausibly explained. If we agree that the beginning of globalization in East Central Europe and Russia comes in the 1989/1990 period, then naturally a synthetic analysis of its

effects on language could not be undertaken when it was still too fresh a phenomenon. At present, more than twenty years (nearly a quarter century!) after the given boundary of the start of globalization, it is now possible and necessary to attempt to describe the changes in language that have occurred in that time.

The influence of globalization on Slavonic languages, as discussed above, is only very little known, whereas the analysis of borrowings (and this aspect will occupy a significant position in the project) has produced a wealth of knowledge and experience, which will be used in conducting this research project, and to verify certain widespread views (e.g. regarding the causes of lexical migration).

Scholars have approached the subject – borrowings – in various ways. The first group can be identified as those linguists who analyze the effects of several foreign languages on Polish or Russian. For example, H. Rybicka [1976] describes borrowings from Czech, German, Latin, French, Italian, Russian, Turkish and other languages from the beginnings of the Polish state to the 1970s. Given the long period and rich linguistic material studied, the author, understandably, presents only certain processes occurring regularly in connection with the borrowing and adaptation of foreign expressions into Polish and cites appropriate illustrative examples. B. Walczak [1987, 2001] and L. Krysin [1968, 2008] proceed in similar fashion. They study borrowings, which were incorporated into Polish and Russian in the 20th century. Lists of foreign expressions in the given languages are provided in the works of these authors and are illustrative in nature, and are not the effect of systematic extirpation from linguistic material. A different research approach to borrowed lexis was taken by M. Witaszek-Samborska [1993]. In her work, it was linguistics which defined the goal of a quantitative description of borrowings from particular languages in the lexical corpus of Polish of the 1960s and 1970s. This – quantitative – research into vocabulary was begun by the Polish Academy in the 1970s following the creation of lists and dictionaries of the frequency of certain functional inflections in Polish. M. Witaszek-Samborska's analysis included, among others, borrowings from Greek and Latin, German, French, English, Italian and Russian. The author, based on the views of A. Ropa, H. Kurkowska, and B. Walczak, concludes that items from English occupy the first position among borrowings penetrating contemporary Polish. Interestingly, confirmation of this finding cannot be found in the study data. It turns out that the share of Anglicisms in the lexicon and text of select Polish inflections is in fact very low compared to those from other foreign languages: less than 1%.

A different approach to the study of borrowings is presented by J. Reczek [1968], L. Moszyński [1954], B. Nowowiejski [1996], V. Aristova [1978], E. Mańczak-Wohlfeld [1994, 1995, 2006], and K. Luciński [2000]. These scholars study borrowings from one select language into Polish and/or Russian. Such studies are usually confined to a defined period in the development of the receiving language, when

these different stages correspond to mutual linguistic contacts determined by external circumstances, such as the economic, socio-political or cultural conditions. And so, consequently, borrowings from Czech appear in Polish during the period of Christianization when Poland converted to Christianity through Czech missionaries (on Bohemianisms of the period, cf. Reczek [1968]). Mieszko I was baptized in the Roman rite and thereby bound Poland into the culture of Western Christianity, to which Germany also belonged. As a result, and also a result of the German colonization of Polish lands (13th–14th centuries) discussed below, Polish-German linguistic contacts came into being; the linguistic consequences of which are many and continue to the present day in the form of borrowings from German into Polish (on Germanization in this period, cf. Moszyński [1954]). The next wave of strong German influence on the Polish language came in the 19th century. A substantial part of the territory of Poland was under the Prussian and Austrian partitions, and the official language of both of these partitions was German, which naturally had exerted an influence on Polish (on borrowings from German in the 19th century, cf. Nowowiejski [1996]). The second half of the 20th century is for certain the age of the economic (and cultural) hegemony of the United States, and with it, of the English language. Although Anglicisms appear earlier in both Polish and in Russian, their number increases rapidly in the 20th century together with the achievements of the scientific-technological revolution (on Anglicisms in Polish and/or Russian, cf. Aristova [1978], Mańczak-Wohlfeld [1994, 1995, 2006], Luciński [2000]).

The question of borrowings is addressed in the work of other authors, including S. Gajda [1976], M. Wójtowicz [1984], G. Lisowska [2005], N. Avilova [1967], Z. Loginova [1978], E. Soloducho [1982], and M. Zabawa [2012], and yet the scope of the research into borrowings is in some sense limited, either to a select thematic group, to a grammatical classification, or to a particular functional inflection of the language. And so S. Gajda [1976] focuses on borrowings from German in Polish Silesian miners' dialect (*gwara górnicza*), Z. Loginova [1978] – on the development of Russian sports terminology. M. Wójtowicz [1984] and G. Lisowska [2005] subjected to linguistic analysis foreign language nouns domesticated into Russian; verbs adopted by Russian are the subject of the book by N. Avilova [1967]. The question of the internationalization of phraseology based on material from Slavonic and non-Slavonic languages was studied by E. Soloducho [1982]. M. Zabawa [2012] took on the question of Anglicisms domesticated into the inflections of Polish informal speech.

The remaining number of works address specific research topics in borrowings, e.g. the analysis of individual – usually the most recent – borrowings, their semantics and grammatical structure, as well as the means of their adoption into one or another Slavonic language (Ropa [1974], Krysin [2002], Mańczak-Wohlfeld [1997,

2000], Gorbov [2010, 2011], Lopatin [1978], Sal'min, Levašov [1978], Admoni [1978], Zazorina [1978], Loginowa [1978]).

The language of globalization, or the “globalizing language” (such a formulation was proposed by E. Lotko [2003]), is English. Consequently, works which address English-Polish and English-Russian linguistic contacts are given greater attention, and will be discussed in the context of the proposed research while elucidating the novel character of the proposed research question.

The most serious attempt to investigate the role of English borrowings in the Polish language was undertaken by E. Mańczak-Wohlfeld. She conducted a precise analysis of particular periods in the development of the Polish language (the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries), and the effect of this research was an alphabetical list of English lexis domesticated into Polish. The results of these many years of research were published in many articles and monographs (ca. 30). Her most recent works, e.g. Mańczak-Wohlfeld [1995, 2006], are a holistic overview of the entire question.

E. Mańczak-Wohlfeld's studies are based on Anglicisms extracted from dictionaries of the Polish language as well as dictionaries of foreign terms. The most recent of these is the *Dictionary of foreign terms and phrases* [*Słownik wyrazów obcych i zwrotów obcojęzycznych*] by Kopaliński, published in 1991, and the *Dictionary of the Polish Language* [*Słownik języka polskiego*] edited by M. Szymczak and published between 1978–1981 together with its *Supplement* from 1992. The years 1991 and 1992 represent the final times of research in linguistics. In subsequent periods, E. Mańczak-Wohlfeld followed foreign influences only sporadically. Other linguists, e.g. V. Aristova [1978] and M. Wójtowicz [1984] (writing about the influence of English on Russian), as well as K. Luciński [2000] (discussing the fate of Anglicisms in the Polish and Russian languages), did not cross the temporal boundary of the 1980s in their research. And so the most recent stage of development of the Polish and Russian language, the variant of the language not included in dictionaries, has not been studied systematically.

In her analysis of the influence of the English language on Polish in the 20th century, E. Mańczak-Wohlfeld confirms a gradual, but steady growth. She also concludes that the system of borrowed lexis has undergone changes over the course of time. The proportion of the number of Anglicisms filling particular thematic gaps is changing, and new lexical groups are appearing. This – how the number of borrowings is growing, in other words, what has been the dynamic of this change year for year, and how the proportions within the system of lexical borrowings is changing – is an intriguing topic, especially in the context of the comparative analysis of two Slavonic languages, which I intend to undertake. Interesting as well is the question of domestication of foreign vocabulary into the lexical system of the recipient language. Precise semantic analysis should be performed on lexical doublets which exist in one or the other language, e.g. *news* and *wiadomość*, in order to determine

what semantic relationship links them: are they in fact expressions with identical meanings, differing only in their provenance? If not, then such cases should be recognized as apparent lexical doublets and the semantic differences between them should be described.

One remaining – significant – observation. E. Mańczak-Wohlfeld, summarizing her work about the migration of Anglicisms in the 19th century, concludes that starting in the second half of the 19th century, their number in the Polish language grew. “[...] it happened – the author explains – as an effect of the rise of the British Empire, and subsequently the rapid development of the United States. It must be added that the Industrial Revolution in Great Britain certainly contributed to English becoming the source of many borrowings imported into numerous languages” [Mańczak-Wohlfeld 1995: 39]. At present, at the turn of the millennium, we face almost a complete reproduction of the situation the linguist described, only the main character has changed. Over the course of the 20th century, the United States achieved imperial status, and the country continues to play an important (the most important?) role in the global economy, politics and culture, and it is precisely this American English which exerts its influence on other national languages. A revolution, in fact not an industrial one, but rather a scientific-technological one, also came to pass at the turn of the 21st century, which released an explosive growth of vocabulary and its proliferation in the form of borrowings into Slavonic languages. How the Polish and Russian languages have changed under these new circumstances, in circumstances of extraordinary scientific-technological progress, the globalizing opening of borders and increased migration and accelerated integration of the countries and peoples of the world, is the subject of this study.

5. Research Methodology

The first stage of the study will involve the recording of interesting linguistic examples that appear in press texts in the period of interest, creating an index of research material. In order to maintain the appropriate quantitative proportions of the analyzed texts, subject to examination will be every other issue of “Ogonëk” and every third issue of “Polityka”, every other issue of “Argumenty i fakty” (a weekly), and every twelfth issue of “Gazeta wyborcza” (a daily), each without thematic supplements. All interesting linguistic items will be recorded with the year of issue of the periodical in which it appeared, as dating the material is significant for the analysis of the dynamics of the process of domesticating borrowings into Slavonic languages. At this stage methods of photo-documentation will be applied, as well as paper note cards. The next step will be to enter the findings into a computer system and to create an electronic database.

The next stage of the research will be devoted to verification of the collected material. It will need to be verified if these items have been previously noted in traditional dictionaries, dictionaries of foreign phrases, in dictionary compilations, as well as in the indexes of Anglicisms that appear in Polish and Russian by E. Mańczak-Wohlfeld, M. Wójtowicz, and L. Krysin. The verification procedure will allow determination of the degree of “freshness” of the borrowings. These results will be then transferred to note cards, and in this manner detect the details of particular borrowings.

The following research stage will be devoted to a comprehensive linguistic analysis of the foreign language material, the results of which will be presented in an organized manner. Previously unnoticed borrowings will be cataloged and described: it will be determined which type of borrowing each item belongs to (is it a lexical, grammatical, semantic or morphological borrowing), orthographic variants of the borrowing noted as well as derivatives, the area of life in which the new foreign vocabulary was taken will also be described. The degree of domestication of the borrowing by the Slavonic language will be considered, analyzing signs of the item’s assimilation. It will also be ascertained if the given expression has a correlate in Polish/Russian, and if so, the semantic relationship between them will be determined: do they have an identical meaning, and thus are lexical doublets, or not. In achieving this task, methods of semantic analysis will be applied, e.g. contextual analysis of the item in question, collocation analysis, and the method of semantic testing. Older borrowings that have already been documented in lexical dictionaries of Polish and Russian and still function in both languages will only be interesting to the extent that they have been affected by semantic or formal changes in the period under study. These changes will also be described.

The results of the study regarding the number of borrowings, their thematic and grammatical characteristics in each of the analyzed languages will be compared, providing an answer to the question regarding tendencies and patterns in the development of Slavonic languages in this particular historical period (it focuses on the tendencies in the range of the mutual influence of the languages).

6. Significance of the Project

An analysis of the changes which have occurred in Slavonic languages at issue under the influence of globalization (or: at the time of globalization) is a current and relevant issue and may be of great significance for Polish and Russian linguistics (especially for lexicology), for the history of both of these languages, as well as for language contact theory. The project will provide new insights into the phenomenon of globalization (through the lens of language), and will supplement

current knowledge in the social sciences – anthropology and sociology – regarding globalization as a cultural phenomenon.

Realization of the project research goals will allow detailed documentation of the state of Polish and Russian in a set period. Because selection of interesting linguistic examples has been undertaken on the basis of texts from the Polish and Russian press, precise dating of their entry into the language is made possible (this is particularly important for previously undocumented items). In this way it should be possible to track and describe year for year the dynamic process of importation of foreign language lexis into the Slavonic languages selected for analysis. After ordering the collected linguistic material and subjecting it to analysis and assessment, it shall be attempted to determine the current developmental tendencies in the sphere of language influence. Comparative analysis of two Slavonic languages, in turn, will allow to determine developmental tendencies they may have in common. The research results will also provide answers to the following questions: 1) do different Slavonic languages borrow the same vocabulary and grammatical models from English? 2) which language incorporates more foreign lexis? 3) to what degree is the tendency toward hybridization, which is already apparent, a dangerous one? Another likely outcome will be to demonstrate that at the current stage of cultural and language development, the character of the migrating vocabulary has changed as well as the causes for the migration of expressions. The empirical observation to be confirmed is that the current English-Polish language contact is characterized by an unrestrained and spontaneous assumption of Anglicisms by Slavonic languages.

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