There seems to be an equation and a set of equivalent relations which is reflected neither in the relevant Greek reference works nor in the important Slavic comparativist tools.

In REW 1.359 we find at dolbít’ ‘meisseln’ the related formation dolotó, and the comparanda CZ. dloubať, Slovak dlbst’, Polish dłuhać, dłuż, Lith. –dibiti, and OE delfan [‘delvan].

Skok ERHSJ 1.460 adduces dúpsti dúbēm, Krk dljisi < *delti, dljeto, and the comparanda Ukr. dousty, Slovene dōbsti (but note also in South Slavic Bulg. dlato).

We thus have excellent Balto–Slavic attestation, Lithuanian *dłb–tei, Slavic *dłb(s)–t(e)i, *dłblu, Balto–Slavic *dłlp–tāN (including Albanian, since dalē, indigenous to Romanian dală, cannot be borrowed from Slavic) > Slavic *delpto(n). In Germanic we have English *dīlp–.

The impression is that this base is strongly North European IE. For Greek glaphyrós Frisk GEW 1.311 offers no account; the meaning ‘hohl’ suits ‘cisel, meisseln, gouging’ admirably. We may easily reconstruct *dłb−ur−ó−, to an old verbal noun in −ur. This would add an example of the change *dl > gl– that I have claimed for Greek (Mir Curad: Studies in honor of Calvert Watkins, Innsbruck 1998, 241–2) in such words as glykēs, glōtta, gāla (and glago–, cp. Schwyzer I 515, 518–9).

However the consonantism *dīlp– goes poorly (inexactly) with Balto–Slavic *dīlp– and Germanic *dīlp–. This suggests that we have here a Prehellenic lexeme (as I have discussed repeatedly in Ziva Antika of the 1970s on); a pre-form *dīlp– theoretically < dīlp– (cp. stiphrós) could have been extracted from *dīlp–to–m. Note that I have claimed that Prehellenic (see Encyclopedia of Languages and Linguistics 1994, article on Indo–European), like Albanian, migrated from North European. This would imply that Greek *dl– > gl occurred after contact with Prehellenic. Since syllabic *R > Prehellenic *uR (pērgos, panagērīs, mêle, Thule = Slovene tla), we may also speculate that glaphō is an early loan from Prehellenic *dīlp– < *dīlp–.

Key words: Indoeuropean languages, etymology

Ključne riječi: indoeuropski jezici, etimologija