Some Sociolinguistic Topics at the End of the Twentieth
and the Beginning of the Twenty First Century

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This text lists and comments on the sociolinguistically motivated synthetic works published in the last decades of the twentieth century and at the beginning of the twenty-first century outside the political borders of the countries where Serbian, Croatian, Slovene and Macedonian standard languages are in use. Special attention is paid to those books which crucially contributed to the clarifying of the complex linguistic and sociolinguistic problems of language planning and language policy of the mentioned languages. That is then connected with some other linguistic and sociolinguistic publications (important for this topic) which appeared either earlier, or at the same time or later.

In the last decade of the twentieth century the political events in the territory of the former Yugoslavia have brought about the end of the glottopolitical processes regarding the standard languages in that area. The already constituted Slovene and Macedonian had been joined by Serbian, Croatian, and Bosnian/Bosnia standard languages by way of the promotion of earlier «variants» into separate standard languages.¹

The review of the relevant publications will be structured into two groups: First, books connected with the Polish project Recent changes in the Slavonic languages 1945-1995, Opole, Poland, University of Opole, Institute for Slavonic Philology; Second, books connected with the International Journal of the Sociology of Language, in the form of thematic volumes, Berlin/New York – Mouton de Gruyter.

¹ The sociolinguistic topic of this small article is my contribution to the special issue of the periodical Studia Romanica et Anglica Zagrabienia dedicated by the Editorial Board to Professor Damir Kalogjera. This small contribution will point out that it was Professor Damir Kalogjera who, as either a contributor or editor, took part in generating a considerable number of important sociolinguistic synthetic works which were published in the past two decades. Bearing that fact in mind, I have decided to choose the present topic, as sociolinguistically relevant for this special occasion, when we honour our highly esteemed and respected colleague.
Instytut Filologii Polskiej, headed by Professor Stanisław Gajda, started an international scholarly project *Recent changes in Slavonic Languages 1945-1995*, (Najnowsze dzieje języków słowiańskich 1945-1995) to last from 1992 to 1996, with the aim of publishing separate studies for fourteen Slavonic languages to mark the XII International Slavic Congress in Cracow in 1998. Each volume was to be a collective piece of work, each with its own editor, according to a prescribed plan of themes and texts, the sociolinguistic situation, grammatical structure (phonological, morphological, word-formation, syntactic, semantic and textual), lexis, stratification, functional perspective, dialectal situation, literacy and the diaspora situation for each language. According to this plan the following studies have been published: Serbian (ed. M. Radovanović, 1996), Bulgarian (ed. S. Dimitrova, 1997), Russian (E. Širajev, 1997), Lusatian (ed. H. Faska, 1998), Czech (ed. J. Kořenský, 1998), Slovene (ed. A. Vidović-Muha, 1998), Slovak (ed. J. Bosák, 1998), Croatian (ed. M. Lončarić, 1998), Belarussian (eds. A. Lukašanec, M. Prigodzic, L. Sjameška, 1998), Macedonian (ed. L. Minova-G’urkova), Ukrainian (ed. S. Ermolenko, 1999), Polish (ed. S. Gajda, 2001), Kashubian (ed. E. Breza, 2001), the Ruthenian study has also been planned (ed. P. R. Magocsi). The organiser originally had planned one study for the language «Serbo-Croatiano», however, during the work on the project it split up into two volumes «Serbian» and «Croatian» with two separate editorial boards. Thus the work on the project was in step with the final phases of the glottopolitical events in the South Slavonic territory and of the changes occurring in the South Slavonic standard languages in connection with the newly created political circumstances and entities.

It is important to point out in connection with our topic that in the 1990s, within this project, the volumes for Serbian, Croatian, Slovene and Macedonian languages were published and that their publication marked the partial completion of the glottopolitical story about the formation of the South Slavonic languages on the former Yugoslav ethnic, cultural and linguistic space (with the open question of the Bosnian/Bosnia standard, which was being constituted, and the potential Montenegrin which is from time to time announced as a principled possibility). The volumes contents are as follows:


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Klain; Phonetics (Prosodic system, Vocalisms, Consonantism) – D. Petrović; Morphology, Syntax and Phraseology (The morphological level, Sentence constituent level, Sentence level) – Ž. Stanojić; Special styles (The process of the nominalization of the linguistic statement and the decomposition of the predicate, The flourishing of phraseologisms, Bureaucratization of language) – M. Luković;

Dialects (Dialect change, The study of dialects) – D. Ćupić; Orthographic norm (The orthographic norm in the Serbian language culture, Serbian norm after World War 2, Current principles of the linguistic and orthographic norm – M. Pešikan; Summary; Streszczenie; Index (Index of names, Index of terms). The book has its domestic version: The Serbian Language at the End of the Century, ed. M. Radovanović, The Institute for the Serbian language of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts / The Official Gazette, Belgrade, 1996.

The Croatian language, ed. Mijo Lončarić, 1998, 1-339: Słowo wstępne – S. Gajda; Editorial; The political basis and linguistic, political and sociolinguistic conditions – D. Brozović; Literary language – R. Katić (Development), V. Putanec (Lexicography), L. Badurina (Orthography), M. Lončarić and S. Vukušić (Phonology), M. Lončarić and S. Vukušić (Morphology), S. Babić (Word-formation), I. Pranjković (Syntactic structure), M. Samardžija (Lexis), M. Lončarić (Place names), P. Šiminović (Personal names), Folk speech – J. Lisac (Introduction), J. Lisac (Štokavian and Torlakian Croatian idioms), Lj. Kolenić (Slavonian dialects), D. Brozović (Čakavian dialects), M. Lončarić (Kajkavian dialects); Diaspora – N. Benčić (Croats in Gradišće), E(nest) Barić (Hungary), S. Hozjan (Romania), S. Hozjan (Southern Italy), R. Filipović (USA); Summary; Streszczenie. Unfortunately, the book lacks the indexes of names and terms, probably because even without them it exceeded the planned size.


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This book, like the Serbian one, has a domestic issue (in this case it is a version of preparatory texts for the final issue): Language and time, ed. A. Vidović-Muha, The Scientific Institute of the Faculty of Philosophy, Ljubljana, 1996.

**The Macedonian language**, ed. Liljana Minova-G’urkova (in Cyrillic script), 1998, 1-297: Slowo wstępne – S. Gajda; Introduction – L. Minova-G’urkova; The Macedonian language from the sociolinguistic viewpoint – L. Minova-G’urkova; The Macedonian language until 1945 – L. Minova-G’urkova and B. Ristovski; External factors influencing the status of the Macedonian language in the second half of the twentieth century – L. Minova-G’urkova; Some features of the Macedonian standard language – L. Minova-G’urkova; The Macedonian language as a scientific subject – L. Minova-G’urkova; The dialectal basis of the Macedonian standard language – S. Bojkovska; The situation and change in the Macedonian language since 1945 – Ž. Cvetkovski (The sound system), Ž. Cvetkovski (The Accent), L. Minova-G’urkova (Morphology), Ž. Cvetkovski (Syntax), K. Koneski (Word-formation, Lexis); Functional styles in Macedonian (Administrative style, Newspaper style, Scientific style) – S. Velkovska and J. Vladova; Approaches to the study of Macedonian outside the borders of the Republic of Macedonia – L. Minova-G’urkova (Macedonian minorities in Albania, Macedonians in Greece, Macedonians in Bulgaria, Macedonians in the states of the former Yugoslavia, Macedonians in Eastern Europe, Macedonian immigrants in the West European and Trans-Atlantic countries, The formation of the transnational Macedonian community, Some features of the language of emigrants of the Macedonian origin); Concluding remarks – L. Minova-G’urkova; Summary, Streszczenie. The book does not contain the name and subject indexes probably because it overdid the prescribed size (as the Croatian book).

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Professor Joshua A. Fishman is the chief editor of the well-known periodical *International Journal of the Sociology of Language* (Berlin/New York: Mouton de Gruyter), of which six issues a year are published, mainly on a single topic, and each edited by a guest editor. As one series of topics J. A. Fishman has planned a number of titles which deal with sociolinguistic situation and sociolinguistic research in individual countries and parts of the world. For example, in 1990, the issues dealt with China, 80, Korea, 82, Germany, 83, America (about Spanish), 84, The Caribbean, 85; in 1991, The Countries of Maghreb, 87, The Philippines, 88, Brasil, 89, Western Europe, 90, The World of Yiddish, 91; in 1992, Mexico, 96, China, 97; in 1993, Belgium, 104; in 1994, Canada, 105-106, Former Colonies, 107; in 1995, Hungary, 111, Morocco, 112, Australian Aborigines, 113, The Mexican-American border, 114, Norway, 115; in 1996, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, 117, Europe (in connection with minority languages), 120, Asia, 122; in 1997, The Berbers, 123, Slovenia, 124, Sub-Saharan Africa, 125, Greece, 126; in 1998, Southeast Asia, 130,
Macedonia, 131, America (in connection with Native American languages), 132, Northern and Western Europe (in connection with the Americans), 133; in 1999, Bulgaria, 135, South Africa (after apartheid), 136, Among Jewish people, 138, Estonia, 139; in 2000, West Africa, 141, Former Colonies, 142, South Africa (on language and ethnicity), 144, Europe (in connection with political borders), 145, Asia and Africa (multilingualism), 146; in 2001, Croatia, 147, Iran, 148, Spanish-speaking countries, 149, Countries with Digraphia, 150, Serbia, 151 and so on.2

It is worth pointing out again (as in the case of the Polish project) that through the publication of separate Slovene, Macedonian, Croatian and Serbian issues (with the open questions of Bosnian/Bosniac standard and the potential Montenegrin standard), the glottopolitical story of the constitution of South Slavic standard languages has been settled.


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2 I have taken for illustration only the issues from the last decade of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century, the period which happens to be in the focus of this survey. Within that period the issue 52 of the *International Journal of the Sociology of Language* was dedicated to the sociolinguistic situation in former Yugoslavia under the title *Yougoslavia in Sociolinguistic Perspective* (1985). The guest-editor of the issue was Thomas F. Magner and the authors of the contributions J. Paternost, V. A. Friedman, J. Byron and, of course, the person we honour in this issue, Damir Kalogjera, in the text, Damir Kalogjera: «Attitudes towards Serbo-Croatian language varieties», 93-109 (along with the topic of prescriptivism, that is one of Damir Kalogjera’s main sociolinguistic preoccupations, cf. further and also note no.3). Cf. also: Damir Kalogjera: «On Serbo-Croatian prescriptivism», in *Sociolinguistic Problems in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Yugoslavia*, eds. W. R. Schmalstieg and T. F. Magner, Columbus, Ohio: Slavica, 1978, 389-399; Damir Kalogjera: «Some aspects of prescriptivism in Serbo-Croatian», in *Yugoslav General Linguistics*, ed. M. Radovanović, Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins (Linguistic and Literary Studies in Eastern Europe 26), 1989,163-186; Damir Kalogjera: «A sketch for a chronicle of (anti-)prescriptivism», in *History and Perspectives of Language Study. Papers in Honour of Ranko Bugarski*, eds. O. Mišeska-Tomić and M. Radovanović, Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins (Current issues in linguistic theory 186), 2000, 271-283.
in a bilingual setting: Macedonian language maintenance in Australia – I. Čašule; The situation of the Macedonian language in Greece: sociolinguistic analysis – R. Schmieger; Book review: Socjolingwistyka 12/13 (Cracow, 1993) – Jolanta Mindak. The contributions in this issue came from both the authors from Macedonia and from abroad.


In conclusion: the Serbian and Croatian issues in the two series presented, which have been published outside the frontiers of the countries whose languages they dealt with, in the last decade of the twentieth century (and into the threshold of the twenty-first century in the case of two publications), demonstrate, at least as it appears at the present

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moment, in the best possible manner, that the relatively turbulent glottopolitical events in these parts of the world in the course of previous several decades have settled, or more precisely, became crystalized, when Serbian and Croatian language standards are in question.\footnote{At the end of note no.3 we mentioned some publications containing contributions from scholarly conferences held at the turn of the century in the Universities of London (2000) and Amsterdam (2000), which had been dedicated to the glottopolitical and similar events in connection with the standard South-Slavonic languages in former Yugoslavia (the so-called «Serbian-Croatian-Slovene-Macedonian language complex»). It is worth, however, mentioning that in the years 2001 and 2002 scholarly meetings with similar topics were held at Neum and in Vienna: Language and Democratization (Proceedings), Sarajevo, Language Institute, 2001 (of the Neum conference with participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, Austria, Norway, and Sweden); The current questions of the language of Bosniacs, Croats, Serbs and Montenegrins, ed. G. Neveklowsky, Wien: Institut für Slawistik der Universität Wien / Östereichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, 2002 (to be published) (of the Vienna conference with participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, Austria, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Russia, and the USA).}