

REACTIONS OF THE PARTY STRUCTURES TO THE APPEARANCE OF THE *DECLARATION ON THE NAME AND STATUS OF THE CROATIAN LITERARY LANGUAGE* ACCORDING TO THE WRITINGS OF SOME SERBIAN PRESS

Abstract

After the publication of the Declaration on The Name and Status of The Croatian Literary Language by Telegram on the 17th of March 1967, a sharp reaction of the communist party structures followed. First on the 21st of March 1967 the Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Croatia put forward their point of view. Later also lower party structures submitted their observations. Taking into account the fact that it was a hot issue, that was described as an attack on brotherhood and unity by the party, the press wrote a lot and paid a lot of attention to the Declaration. Although the core discussions were led in Croatia, the Serbian communists actively participated in the burning linguistic discussions. Their reactions were marked by the appearance of a Suggestion for Thought at the assembly of the Association of Writers of Serbia on the 19th of March 1967. Reactions to the Declaration and the Suggestion popped up also in other Yugoslav republics, mainly in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro. Recently in Croatia a lot has been written about the Declaration. Those writings came mostly from the quill of the authors of the Declaration who mostly paid attention to the context in which the Declaration was written as well as to the subsequent hunt for the signatories. However, a complete and chronological overview of the reaction of the party structures at the whole Yugoslav area is missing. Furthermore, the Croatian public spoke little about the Suggestion for Thought which appeared as a reaction to the Declaration. The paper gives a chronological overview of the reactions of the party structures at the whole Yugoslav area as reported in some Serbian press. It presents which political forums expressed their opinions on the burning linguistic issues of the time and which positions to the Declaration and the Suggestion as well as to their authors they held.

Keywords: Declaration on The Name and Status of The Croatian Literary Language; Suggestion for Thought; Politika; Borba; Communist Party; Matrix Croatica; Association of Writers of Croatia; Association of Writers of Serbia; discussions on language